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NOTICE.—The weekly articles on Bridge are resumed to-day, and will appear henceforth weekly.

We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications: and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

One by one all the foreign ministers are going to the writers and interviewers. A little while ago it was M. Witte; now it is the German Chancellor. It is much the same with the rulers of states—one day we may read of Mr. Stead's audience with the Tsar—another witnesses an indignant outburst by the President of the United States because he has been reported improperly. Lord Lansdowne is one of the few diplomats who decline to be drawn in this way, and when we notice how strong men are giving way we do not feel quite sure of him. Prince Bülow seems to have made a series of "statements" to various French writers. At this rate, when a foreign minister has any particularly delicate negotiations on hand he will put them "on the flimsies"—which we believe is the rather repellent technical term—and cause them to be scattered broadcast.

Prince Bülow made a long statement to a correspondent of the "Petit Parisien" on Monday on French and German relations. He pointed out in a bland and engaging manner that it had never been Germany's object to obtain "the slightest special advantage" in the Morocco negotiations though some people in Germany had desired it. German action in Morocco had been exclusively defensive. Prince Bülow made a moving appeal to the Press to create between the two countries a feeling of confidence. As to the Russo-German rapprochement, why it would surely only please France to see Germany and Russia good friends—"it is to your interest that your ally should have one friend more". This certainly is one point of view; but occasionally in the good fortune of our friends—to alter Rochefoucauld slightly—there is something not wholly agreeable to us.

It is amusing to notice that the Paris press, far from praising Prince Bülow, show themselves frigid or unsympathetic. The "Matin" for instance grumbles

at the state of the army and navy which alone have made it possible for Germany to treat France so severely; whilst the "Eclair" thinks that the Prince is striving to repair the "blunders of his master". It is less amusing to find that Anglo-German relations have somehow been lugged into these interviews on Franco-German relations and prospects. There is not to be a war between England and Germany after all. They "would do too much damage to each other". We agree they would indeed. But what a curious thing for a foreign minister and great statesman to put in the newspaper. It appears to be rather wanting in delicacy.

Resolutions passed at the great conference held at Budapest on Tuesday amount to a decided refusal of the Hungarian parliamentary majority to sanction the assumption of office by the Coalition leaders on the King's terms. The Chamber is to meet on 10 October, and it is probable that Baron Fejervary's Cabinet will be reappointed, but whether with a mandate to put forward the programme of universal suffrage remains undetermined. There have been several conferences between the King and Baron Fejervary and M. Kristoffy, the author of the scheme which the Premier adopted, but to which the King has so far refused to give his consent. Universal suffrage is a weapon hastily snatched up to resist the advance of the Magyar nationalist movement, and is intended to be wielded by all the non-Magyar peoples in Hungary. As such it has the support of the most influential popular party in Austria, whose views have been expressed in very strong language by the well-known Dr. Lueger. It is the programme with which he declares the Austrians must combine with the non-Magyar Hungarians for the purpose of correcting the aims of the separatists and securing the liberation of the non-Magyar races.

There appeared a possibility that the Coalition might accept office on the King's suggestion of a revision of the economic relations between Austria and Hungary as settled in 1867. To this however the resolution of the Parliamentary Conference gives a decided negative. The King made the revision conditional on both States of the Monarchy taking an equal part in it. The resolution is a protest against all attempts to make the revision of the 1867 compact dependent upon Austrian factors and a vindication of "the economic independence of Hungary". This throws an interesting side-light on the speech of Dr. Lueger with its reference to the liberation of the non-Magyars. The Croatians have as

bitter grievances against the dependence in which they are held by Hungary under the 1867 compact, as Hungary has against Austria; and, it may be added, as Austria has against Hungary; for each of them believes itself to be victimised by the other. These complaints are reminders of the former quarrels of England and Scotland in commercial matters. If there were a revision of the 1867 compact under the King's conditions Croatia would be entitled to enter into the bargaining on her own account, and might free herself from the Hungarian economic bondage. Hungarian selfishness will not permit this, and therefore on this point the Magyar patriots are clearly playing into the hands of Dr. Lueger and his Austrians.

Sweden and Norway have rather exchanged parts. When Norway decided that the time had come for separation, Sweden was wrathful and demanded that her partner should observe certain conditions, which were agreed to without demur. Now that the Karlstad Conference has settled the terms on which the two countries shall separate, Sweden accepts the position loyally, and Norway is inclined to become the stickler for form. Sweden seems fairly well satisfied that a reasonable arrangement has been effected, but Norway having at Sweden's request referred the question of separation to the referendum, is desirous to submit the Karlstad agreement to the country also. The feeling exists that Norway suffered humiliation at Karlstad, and the delegates would be happier if they knew that their action were endorsed by the people.

There may be a good deal that is implicit in the Franco-German programme to be submitted to the Morocco Conference. On the face of it, it can only suggest that the mountain has been in labour. Regulations as to police, with reservations in favour of exclusive French rights on the frontier, financial assistance to the Maghzen with a view to the creation of a State bank charged with the improvement in the monetary situation and the opening of credits for public works, and the discovery and exploitation of new sources of revenue are important items but not of a character to involve long and nervous negotiations. Germany no doubt raised objections to French claims on the frontier, and the undertaking that no public service should be pledged for the benefit of private interests was not pleasing to parties with axes to grind. But neither question accounts for the apparent difficulty which Dr. Rosen and M. Revoil had in arriving at a settlement.

The Porte and the Concert of Europe are engaged at present in one of their ever-recurring conflicts which so often seem à outrance but which prove to be only *pour rire*. The point at issue is the financial control of Macedonia which the Concert wishes to be placed in the hands of its international agents. These agents have already arrived in Salonika; they have formed themselves into a board; and they have invited Hilmi Pasha the Inspector-General to take the chair at their meeting. But the Sultan true to his *métier* of the recalcitrant Turk refuses to send instructions to his representative and the question is what will the Concert do. It has been said that the Sultan always gives way after prevaricating to the last moment when the Powers are resolved. That may be so; but the interesting point to the Sultan and the outside observer is always whether the Powers are resolved or not. The Sultan will no doubt remember well the affairs of Armenia and of Anatolia. What will the Powers do if he continues unamenable? Nobody has the slightest idea. And as to loss of prestige, if the Powers turn back, they do not very much trouble about that when the loss is divided into so many fractional parts.

The causes of strikes may be diagnosed in many different ways. In England they have been ascribed to the fact that the workman Jeshurun has waxed fat and therefore kicked. As to the great strike, or lock-out, in Berlin of the electrical works which, with the allied metal trades, will include more than a hundred thousand men, the explanation of the free-traders here is that it is a demand for higher wages to meet the enhanced cost of living owing to protection. Herr

Bebel the other day, speaking for the Socialists, said nothing about striking for the "living wage"; strikes were to be ordered to bring the higher classes to their senses for wishing to restrict the franchise. But whatever the reasons may be all attempts at conciliation have failed. Berlin is on a short allowance of electric cars; soldiers and artillery are being hurried into the city; and the Berliners are said to have entirely lost their taste for the higher politics in contemplation of the disorganised state of the electric industry. This may be the reason for the serene attitude of Prince Bülow towards the world at large just at present.

Germany's colonial troubles were discussed at the meeting of the Colonial Congress in Berlin on Thursday. It is clear that the difficulties originally were seriously underrated, and disappointment has brought a certain amount of reaction. Naturally the colonial party only stiffens its back in consequence. Germany cannot give up her colonial enterprises, especially in view of the fact that existing troubles are due to native risings. Little credit is attached to the report that the rebels in South-West Africa have found active allies in a number of Boer settlers who are anxious to drive the Germans out of the colony. The extraordinary thing is that while the report comes through the "Windhoeker Nachrichten", which ought to be in a position to ascertain the truth, nothing is known of the matter by the German Government. The report is the more remarkable because the Germans themselves have roused considerable feeling by engaging a number of Boers nominally in the capacity of drivers and camp-assistants.

Australia apparently is beginning to have serious doubts as to the wisdom of taking General Booth's 50,000 colonists. Sir William Lyne, the Minister for Trade and Customs, has openly declared against the proposal after its acceptance by the Cabinet of which he is a member. He was not present at the meeting when the matter was discussed, and his action argues peculiar views as to collective Ministerial responsibility. If he feels so strongly, his course surely is clear. Australia naturally is not prepared to welcome the submerged tenth, but the Agents-General on this side have been charged with the duty of seeing that the right sort of people are sent out. We have advanced reasons why emigration schemes such as General Booth's are of doubtful economic advantage to Great Britain, but some of the strongest arguments against them from the home point of view are the best arguments in their favour from the colonial standpoint. In any case Australia is not entitled to blow hot one day and cold the next. General Booth is not the only person concerned.

Mr. Gerald Balfour has been the chief political speaker of the week. At Leeds on Wednesday he stated that the report which the Redistribution Committee is to draw up will not be made public: it is to be solely for the guidance of the Government: probably the Committee will later be enlarged into a Commission which will work out the Government instructions in detail. We fancy the machinery of redistribution is not a very entertaining subject to the public. By the way we are glad to find that Mr. Gerald Balfour gets a fund of amusement out of the House of Commons especially when the Liberals are in power. He speaks quite joyously of the period from 1893 to 1895. He then had "some of the most amusing days he ever passed in the House". The President of the Local Government Board does not usually convey the impression of one who finds life in the House of Commons humorous or amusing.

King's Lynn ought to be in Kilkenny. Its political meetings are nothing if not personal. Another scene occurred there this week when Mr. Alan Burgoyne accused Mr. T. G. Bowles of being in "an incipient stage of second childhood", and mentioned that "his politics were those of self supported by inordinate conceit". A Mr. Gee, a Socialist, on striving to speak, was cheered on by the party of Mr. Bowles, but suc-

cessfully howled down by that of Mr. Burgoyne. We think that Mr. Bowles' politics are capricious, but are not impressed favourably by the attempt to drive him out of the House of Commons, and no person of any common sense would be fortified in a resolve to vote against him by Mr. Burgoyne's vain personalities; they are too gross; and they are pointless too—one does not associate disloyalty to party and conceit, of which he prettily accuses his opponent, with second childhood. Mr. Bowles will be a very useful man in opposition if the next Government is Liberal.

The "Daily News" is much put about by the talk of Singapore—"wonderful news from the Straits of Malacca", Mr. Gladstone might have described it—and the extraordinary report that Dover is to be made a great naval station. All this Jingoism and Imperialism is thought to be the result of treaty making, and—under the title of "A Danger to Liberalism"—the "Daily News" actually turns to the SATURDAY REVIEW as a sort of forlorn hope. It quotes with marked approval some words—"sober words of Conservative sentiment"—from an article in this Review last week on the Anglo-Japanese alliance. We rather fear the Greeks bearing presents, but are interested to find the authentic mouthpiece of the Liberal party favouring sobriety and Conservatism in its foreign policy.

But perhaps the "Daily News" accepts and applauds what we said of treaty-making and international bargaining only when the passage is divorced from its context; for we note how it describes the Anglo-Japanese Agreement as "a plan of essentially offensive naval warfare" based on a treaty with—horrible thought—"a Yellow Power". Now if Liberal candidates and Liberal leaders will take up this line at the General Election, they should stand a really good chance of defeat. Every vote, then, given to a Liberal would be a vote given against Japan. But there is no chance of anything of the kind, and the "Daily News" knows it.

Mr. Arnold-Forster's speech on Thursday at Moushold was encouraging not only in its reference to the present state of the army, but in its anticipations as to the future. In his efforts to secure the right sort of man for the ranks he has trodden on many corns, but he is confident that success is within sight. It is an unwelcome fact that of the men who would have enlisted in some cases as many as 70 or 80 per cent. were rejected as unfit. His difficulties were increased by the necessity of securing men mainly for long service. The Reserve is a record, being nearly 94,000 and by the end of the year it is hoped that it will be 120,000. As a recruiting effort Mr. Arnold-Forster's speech should have good results. The War Office is doing all in its power to make the service popular, and the soldier's earnings, whatever may be said to the contrary, compare favourably with those of many other employments. Mr. Arnold-Forster reckons that a lad of 20, who joins the army, receives the equivalent of 34s. per week, to say nothing of the benefits moral and physical which come to him through the discipline of the ranks.

The end of the Dublin Corporation farce over the question of the Lord Mayor's salary is not yet. Having rescinded the increase which was carried by the Lord Mayor's own vote, the Corporation were later seized with a fit of generosity and in the absence of the Lord Mayor, by a majority of four re-voted the £2,000 advance. That was no sooner done than the Unionist and the Labour members demanded a further meeting when they might once more induce the Corporation to go back on itself. Whether that meeting will be held we do not know. All that is certain is that the Corporation is making the Mayor look exceedingly ridiculous, and at Monday's meeting one member was prepared to move the abolition of the office altogether. The opinion of the Corporation on that point was so obvious that the member withdrew his motion. Meantime the Lord Mayor does not know whether his allowance is at the rate of £1,867 per year or £3,867.

We should have thought that a public body like the Shoreditch Borough Council would have had a finer sense of the constitutional proprieties than to ask the King to receive a deputation with the object of urging the early summoning of Parliament to deal with the unemployed question. It must have known that the King's answer could only be that such a course would be contrary to every precedent. Freedom has broadened down from precedent to precedent but they have been precedents just the opposite of what the King was asked to do. When a public meeting of women assembled the other day to discuss the hardships of the unemployed it seemed quite natural that they should be so unsophisticated as to talk of sending deputations to the King. There is something interesting in this pathetic survival of less rigidly constitutional times when the King was the father of his people; but it is an unfruitful idea in political questions in our days. It is not easy to explain to simple people that the King's refusal is not due to indifference, or that he has means of his own of using powerful influence; and it is very unwise for any public body to expose the King to possible misunderstandings and prejudice.

We refer elsewhere to the more general features of the Church Congress, which has been held during the week at Weymouth. But we may notice here a subject dealt with by a lawyer, Mr. Duke K.C. M.P. Mr. Duke discussed the question of the moral and social effects of the Divorce Acts. In an assembly, most of whose members hold the doctrine of the indissolubility of marriage, it required considerable intellectual honesty to make the statement, and to assent to it as the auditors appear to have done, that probably the law of divorce does not account for any considerable part of the wrong-doing dealt with in the Divorce Court. There is a suspicion that it does, but this is not capable of proof. What is true is that the ratio of increase since 1858 is greater than is accounted for by the increase in population. In the meantime vast social changes have taken place which have had a wider influence in the production of this result. But whatever the truth on this point may be, it does not affect the objection of the Church to the compulsion under the Acts of celebrating the remarriage of divorced persons with Church rites.

Laymen, that is the non-medical public, are often advised never to read medical literature especially if they are at all nervous. But this week the papers are full of the utterances of physiologists and pathologists and practising doctors on a variety of subjects which ought to be considered intelligently by the general public. The occasions of these utterances have been the opening of the Medical Session of the London Hospitals and the meeting of the Congress on Tuberculosis in Paris. There is one general principle running through all the views of doctors in regard to disease. It is the importance of checking the growth of a variety of diseases in the interests of the physical fitness of the nation at large and not merely of the individual. If this is to be done many restraints, both legal and social, will have to be submitted to which at present are not imposed owing to the lack of an enlightened popular opinion. Sir James Crichton-Browne indicated one social restraint when speaking of the evil effects of alcohol. It is much to be wished, he said, that there should grow up one of those conventional understandings which are almost more binding than legal enactments, that it is bad form for a youth to indulge in alcohol till he has attained his majority.

Professor Kenwood at University College also referred to faulty habits of life as checking improvements in dwellings and sanitary surroundings. It seems to be agreed that tuberculosis is largely spread owing to the filthy practice of spitting. If the poor, who suffer most from all contagious diseases, were sufficiently instructed or refined to brand their acquaintances who spit as "offensive beasts" they would do a great deal to save themselves and others from consumption. Professor Kenwood also dealt with a subject which has confused some people who fancy that hygiene and preventative medicine tend to preserve the physically unfit. There is a debit side, but there is a splendid balance to credit. Even the strongest take diseases,

and they are weakened; so that protection increases the virility of the naturally sound, and maintains the general stock healthy.

When popular opinion is advanced enough to support a proposal by Dr. Harris that girls of all grades in society, before they are allowed to marry, should have a certificate of attendance at classes for the management and feeding of babies, we shall probably not be far from that ideal of a mortality of five per thousand which the doctors aim at. The proposal may appear a little grotesque only because most people do not look at these things with the eyes of the doctors, who insist that all their efforts, and all the efforts of philanthropists and legislators, will remain fruitless unless people of all classes are soundly educated in matters of health.

The Tuberculosis Congress is perhaps most useful in directing public attention to the fact that it rests largely with the people themselves to stay the devastation of consumption. As a scientific fact it is interesting to know that the opinion of the Congress appears not to support the views of Koch that bovine tuberculosis is not transmissible to human beings; or that probably serums may yet be discovered which would be preventative of tuberculosis, as a serum is in the case of diphtheria. But it is far more important to know that it is bad personal habits, and the surroundings of ordinary domestic and working life, which encourage the growth and production of microbes. The fight with tuberculosis will be successful in proportion as contagion is prevented, and as poverty, unhealthy dwellings, badly ventilated shops and factories, and alcoholism cease to be such prevalent conditions of life.

Birmingham we are glad to see is not to be contented with a university for teaching brewing and other useful arts alone. The meeting on Thursday held with the object of forming in Birmingham a branch of the Classical Association for the Midlands may be taken as an indication that before long the University will, as its Principal Sir Oliver Lodge strongly desires, have a Greek Chair. Founders of a Classical Association are of course people who are deeply sensible of the value of the Greek and Latin literatures and of the mental training that can be given by their means. But it is significant that the Bishop of Birmingham should say that the absurdities of classical education are imperilling its substantial good; that Professor Sonnenschein said Greek could not hold its own if it continued to be studied as it is now, and that other speakers all expressed similar opinions. The Principal summed them all up by saying that he should advise the Classical Association to place reform before maintenance, leaving the latter to the goodwill of the nation.

The extinction of "Longman's Magazine" will not be regretted by a million people, but we think that it will really be missed by a small public of cultivated folk. Mr. C. J. Longman has edited it for many years with good feeling and with true literary taste. If we glance through a list of its contributors, we find the names of many of the best men and women of letters of their time. It printed one of the few pieces of inspired prose in the language, the wonderful "Pageant of Summer" by Richard Jefferies, and this in itself might be literary triumph enough for one editor. It was good to handle: it had capital and wholesome stories; and its verse, for what verse is worth—not a great deal perhaps—was quite as good as the public wants. So it failed.

The explanation of the extinction of most of the old high-class magazines—"Cornhill" is one of the few survivors and long may it thrive—is easy. "Longman's Magazine" and others before it have ceased because there are too many readers in the world, too many educated people. Unfortunately these readers are not educated up to the standard of such publications. Two or three generations hence it is possible that this may be all quite changed. We can only offer this as consolation to those who have tried long and generously to give the public good wholesome literature; but it is not very substantial consolation.

THE ISOLATION OF GERMANY.

THIS country no longer enjoys the distinction of being the best-hated Power in Europe: in this bad eminence she has been for the time succeeded by Germany. It is not necessary for our purpose to discover whether the position was rightly earned by either or both of us, but that we no longer hold it while Germany does we should be surprised to hear denied. Germany at all events more than ourselves suffers much from the bad habit of her own children in making themselves out much worse than they are. In the frothy declamations of University professors and others who ought to know better, the destruction of the British as the principal aim of all good Germans was daily paraded before the attention of an audience which only half believed in the seriousness of the vapours; but the Englishman has at length by dint of long-continued pressure come to adopt as an article of his political creed that the German is his worst enemy. Japan has no tangible ground of complaint against Germany, yet she has an uneasy feeling that Germany dislikes and resents her success, and would, if she could, put stumbling blocks in the way of her further progress. Hungarian patriots have persuaded themselves that it is German advice which is stiffening the back of Francis Joseph to resist their national demands, yet it is an undoubted fact that two or three years ago the German Kaiser was persona gratissima to the leading Magyars and their followers. In Russia Germans have never been popular, and large sections of Russian opinion regard German advice as the source of many of their troubles. These feelings may be quite without justification but it certainly exists, and it is hardly necessary to expatiate on the recent tension between France and Germany to indicate that any prospect of an entente between the two countries, if it ever existed, has passed away. Though the Triple Alliance still exists, its usefulness to Italy is more a moot question than it was, for the recent rapprochement with France is undoubtedly more popular than the connexion with Germany, and it does not require any particularly astute political sense to foresee a fatal rupture in a future not long distant if any Austrian upheaval should throw open the way to Trieste.

It would therefore seem as if M. Delcassé's policy which sought the isolation of Germany as its principal aim were being engineered by the force of events without M. Delcassé; and the interviews published on Thursday between Count v. Bülow and two French journalists certainly do not tend to dissipate the prevailing sensation that Germany is irritated and ill at ease. English statesmen it is true will unite with the German Chancellor in deprecating the pernicious fallacy put forward by some in this country as well as in his own that a conflict between us is inevitable. With cynical bonhomie Sir Robert Walpole said, "I always advise my young men not to say 'never'": and surely the time is past for publicists to prate about inevitable conflicts. The inevitable catastrophes in foreign affairs are the very events which rarely happen and a war between England and Germany would be a disastrous futility indeed. But it is a futility into which we might have been drawn a few months ago as all the world is now aware, and this not through our own initiative at all but from a sentiment of loyalty towards France. These schemes of insurances and reinsurances among nations have indeed their own dangers from which isolation is free, and if they remove certain dangers they invite others.

The talk current to-day about Germany and ourselves is both foolish and dangerous, but we cannot ignore the colour given to it by the policy which Germany has pursued. There is often a gaucherie in her international manners which gives every occasion to her rivals. We do not wish to be didactic, but clearly she might learn something in the art of diplomacy from our own Foreign Minister, whose graceful method of communicating unwelcome facts to our rivals must almost make them pleased to be outwitted. There certainly was a brutality about the manner in which the French surrender over Morocco was received by the German authorities and Press that makes it difficult to bring about the entente

which she desires. Chamfort's phrase describing the methods employed by the revolutionaries to enforce their doctrines, "Sois mon frère ou je te tue" is a maxim that cannot be applied to any great extent in the relationships of nations at all events of equal rank, and it seems to us that the prevailing distrust of Germany is due quite as much to her methods as to her policy, which has been on the whole dictated by necessity. A good understanding with Russia must by the force of circumstances be a corner-stone of German policy. The preservation of the autocracy is a cause that appeals to the Kaiser on the ground of personal inclination, and it is unnecessary to emphasise the menace of a Russian invasion of Germany through the bare plains of her eastern frontier. Russia too is the only Power whose aims in the Near East may seriously clash with the Kaiser's. The strong position at present enjoyed by Germany at Constantinople is by no means agreeable to Russian opinions, and if Russian aims should be diverted from the Far East to the Balkans and Asia Minor a good many pet German schemes will be seriously interfered with. It is therefore obviously to the interest of the Kaiser to draw the Tsar into an arrangement opposed to the Anglo-Japanese Treaty which has put an end, for some years to come at all events, to any German attempts at aggrandisement in China.

Of course if Germany's object were not national expansion, she might regard the various obstacles multiplying around her with equanimity, but being a great, virile and rapidly increasing community the restraints now being woven around her cannot but cause her a feeling of resentment against the Powers which she believes especially desirous of standing in her way. Japan and England now bar the Far East as the United States bar South America, but for all that Germany remains to-day the chief factor in European combinations, having the best army in the world and a considerable fleet, besides great wealth. It could not be otherwise with her, and therefore neither her ill-will nor her friendship is to be treated lightly. This must be particularly evident to Russia in her present situation, and an arrangement with her must obviously be the best move for Germany; but such an arrangement could only be directed towards certain specified objects, for the Franco-Russian alliance, though no longer in the honeymoon stage, has rendered such benefits to both the parties that its abandonment is highly improbable.

We do not believe that Europe is yet out of the Moorish wood. It may be noted that Count v. Bülow in one of his interviews declined to commit himself to any statement as to the policy he should pursue in case of a direct appeal by the Maghzen to Germany. Therefore the grouping of the Powers at the Conference will be of extreme interest, and may afford some clue as to the rearrangement, if there is to be one, of European interests. So far as we see at present France will gain little by her agreement with Germany, for the barren honour and most arduous task of policing the Algerian frontier does not seem to involve that predominant position which she might have secured by greater activity a year ago. Germany, in fact, in spite of her undoubted unpopularity and momentary isolation, is still strong enough to compel her rivals to respect her interests, even though they appear in this case hardly deserving of the attention devoted to them. Her immense capacity for self-defence will always prevent Germany from becoming a negligible quantity, and by establishing better relations with ourselves she will be following the course dictated by common sense.

AN ESPLANADE CONGRESS.

THE Church Congress seems to have attracted a good number of people to Weymouth, in spite of apprehensions that a watering-place whose historic attractions are represented by the hideous statue of George III. (yet not so hideous as the one of Queen Victoria), and whose churches are utterly uninteresting and mostly in puritan hands, would fail to allure visitors. Weymouth, moreover, is not very accessible, and, being situate between the downs and

the deep sea, has only its northern hinterland to draw upon. At one time, however, it seemed as though the 1905 Congress would find no place to assemble in at all; which helps to bear out our contention that the time has come for these overgrown gatherings of all the clergy-list and its wife to cease to meet annually, or even at all. Our admirable contemporary the "Guardian", which is said to represent the views current in episcopal and archiepiscopal circles reproved us last October for a supposed cynical attitude towards the Church Congress. We lay our hand on our heart and protest. When was the SATURDAY REVIEW ever known to be cynical? Is it cynicism to prick bladders, to seek to explode the conventions of self-complacency, to set big things and small in their proper proportion and perspective? We desire only the efficiency and honour of the mother Church of this nation. But in our opinion, and in that of many other people, the day has gone by for the idea that profound questions of divinity can be settled, or difficult and intricate problems of society solved, by an enormous popular meeting straining its ears to hear what someone is nervously reading for a quarter of an hour from a manuscript, or declaiming for five minutes in terror of the bell. The temptation of each speaker is to say the expected thing, and the audience "thinks a has said what a owt to have said and cooms awaa", well pleased with its own discernment. In the early days of ecclesiastical revival new ideas had to be popularised, and the Church had to advertise itself. The utility of the platform method of progress in the ghostly and unseen life is surely gone. What the Church of England has lacked ever since 1688 is unearthliness; and until she impresses those to whom she is sent with a sense of her supernatural mission and authoritative claims she will seem to them but the largest among many philanthropic organisations. A Church Congress, we are told, lets off steam. That is exactly why we dislike it. Every ounce of steam pressure is wanted for constructive work, and for impelling the battering ram of assault upon the gates of hell and the strongholds of Satan. Talk, however good in itself, merely increases that self-satisfaction which is the especial sin of Anglican officialdom.

Take the Bishop of London, for instance. He is brought daily into contact with the appalling facts of an immense and sinful city. He knows that of his flock not seven per cent., after nineteen centuries of Christianity, attend any place of worship. He knows that the Church of Alfred and Anselm and Francis of Assisi did in some way or other reach and influence and control the entire population. Why, then, though all that he said on Tuesday about Rome's overweeningness, about Mariolatry and so forth, may be undoubtedly true, should he preach this to the Weymouth converted, and invite them to self-applause as members of the Church of England, when the call should rather be to sackcloth and ashes? Affectionate loyalty to a spiritual mother is one thing; mutual admiration is another. The "Times" summed up the gist of Bishop Ingram's utterances on Wednesday in the phrase, "All is for the best in the best of all possible Churches." Bishop of London how many years is it? and not yet heart-broken! We do not think S. Paul would have been breezy at a Church Congress.

We turn with respect to the Presidential address. The Bishop of Salisbury's optimism is not shallow. He speaks what comes into his mind to speak without fear or favour, with little attention to the suitability of the occasion or to the susceptibilities of his audience. He "charged" the clergy and churchwardens at a triennial visitation once at Salisbury on the age for veiling virgins under the canons of S. Hippolytus, and the Protestant laity of Dorchester sat amazed to listen to an erudite discussion of the mass of the pre-sanctified. The Bishop had been writing his "Ministry of Grace". He is always courageous, thoughtful, single-minded and without subtlety. What he said last Tuesday about the astonishing authority claimed by the early Church to mould the institutions of religion must have been very unpalatable to many who heard him—how by Church authority the divine institution of the Sabbath was transformed with apparently little scruple

or controversy, a ministry very unlike that of the Synagogue, out of which the Christian Ecclesia arose, was constituted, certain books which were selected out of the great mass of current Christian literature sealed with ecclesiastical approval, and their sole use prescribed on an equality with the canonical scriptures of the Old Testament, and out of the whole system of Christian doctrines a compact body of truth chosen, and imposed on candidates for baptism as the creed of Christendom. Yet Bishop Wordsworth's intensely English mind makes him also an unconscious ministrant to that insular self-sufficiency which stands in such sore need of correction.

The idea which at present fills the Bishop's mind is that of assimilating the age-long institutions of the universal Church to the political arrangements which have found favour and have "muddled through" fairly well in Anglo-Saxon states. Nothing like the new Representative Church Council has ever existed in any part of the Catholic Church until our young democratic and plutocratic colonies in an unecclesiastical age started mixed, elective parliaments for Church government. Ireland the same. That the Church of England should now follow these modern precedents is a proposition which has much to commend it to Englishmen, trained to regard parliamentary institutions as *de jure divino*. Moreover, an autonomous Church legislature is not to be wrung from Press and Parliament on any other terms—nor, as everyone knows in the bottom of his mind, on any terms at all. On the other hand Churchmen have always been taught that the main difference between Church and Dissent is that the former bases ecclesiastical government on apostolical authority transmitted from above, and the latter on mutual compact and popular approbation. How then is a Church legislature constructed on the model of the British Constitution to be reconciled with belief in the Church as catholic and apostolic? By the argument that the lay and purse-holding House will only be one of three constituent orders, and that the episcopate (like the other two orders) will always retain a right of veto. Equally, unless we are misinformed, the Commons of England are only one part of the legislature, and the Sovereign retains a right of veto. There is some talk about a paper reservation of doctrine and discipline to the synods. If frequenters of congresses were not the bondsmen of phrases they would see how unpractical the scheme is.

We do not say that there are no subjects on which a Church Congress may help to influence, if not to form, public opinion. Some good papers were read, for instance, on the teaching of Christianity about wealth. The extraordinary complexity of modern life makes such a problem far more difficult than it was in a more simple and patriarchal age. By what means, for example, can shareholders in companies exercise the moral responsibility of employers? Modern theories of equality make life a competitive scramble, efface traditional laws of social duty, and substitute affluence for birth and breeding as the arbiter of fashion. The vast sums spent on entertainments do not support the arts which minister to elegance and refinement, but only a passing ostentation. The abolition of the stately life means the simultaneous extinction of the simple life. Mr. W. F. D. Smith was right, we think, in saying that blatant extravagance is not English—we cannot say that it is not Anglo-Saxon. But everyone, poor and rich, is now resolved to "have a lovely time" in this world, and the standards of vulgarity quickly diffuse themselves. Canon Wright daringly spoke of money, called in Scripture the unrighteous mammon and filthy lucre, as a sacred thing. He claimed for it a "high dignity" as one of God's chief instruments. We seem to recall what Bacon says about muck spread on the ground. After all, it is not very clean to handle, in its form, at any rate, of *£ s. d.* Mr. Wright drew attention to the long procession of men and women ministers now not to the state and glory of others, which might shed some refining reflexion on themselves, but merely to their pleasures. Such employment, moreover, is subject to disastrous fluctuations. Some have traced most economic evils to the unscrupulous shopping of ladies—although every woman thinks that *2s. 11½d.* is two shillings.

WHO ARE THE VULGAR?

SIR EDWARD FRY in his address at the Birkbeck College on "Study as a Check to Vulgarity" put the case for education from a point of view that has been much overlooked. The end and aim of education as the cultivation of morals and manners is not altogether a popular conception; and if it became so we should then have one of the rare instances of common thought not being the same thing as vulgarity. Sir Edward Fry does not define or describe vulgarity by any specific marks, but its general characteristics are clearly assumed by him to be shallowness of mind and character. In whatever class of life there is indifference to the great subjects of human interest; the history of the world and its destiny; man's past and present and his possible future; where there is no overawing sense of the mystery of the eternal things, and all satisfaction or dissatisfaction arises from the presence or absence of certain material goods; there we have to recognise vulgarity. But really we ought not to speak of classes in this connexion. Plainly if these are the evidences of vulgarity one can make no distinction of class. We have the lowest class of debased poor, who, so far as we can judge from outward signs, are immersed in a repulsive animalism. Amongst the rich we are familiar enough with an animalism which is not outwardly so disagreeable but is intrinsically more repellent because it seems to have less excuse. And yet the poor on the whole have in most times been at least as susceptible to religious impressions, and as interested in other world problems as those of higher social rank and superior education. They may not have been so sensible and so discriminating, but granted the interest our point is that they could not be considered vulgar. So that we must treat vulgarity as a personal characteristic, and the question is what effect may education or study, as Sir Edward Fry calls it, have in mitigating or removing it.

Perhaps it will not do very much, else how are we to explain the fact that we have "more refinement in many cottages than in many stately mansions"? Is not that essentially the result of, to use a simple phrase, being born so? It seems exactly parallel to the well-known cases where poor youths have been natural-born students and eager for knowledge, and have made up for all the disadvantages of their unfavourable surroundings. But comparatively there are few poor boys who have such an inclination, just as there are comparatively few boys who have it in the higher classes. Neither a thirst for knowledge, nor a dignity of character which arises from a profound sense of the mysterious realities of the world of nature and man, can be created if they do not exist naturally; and prescribed study or education can only play a subordinate part in affecting the original character. The effect of study is just what the person himself makes of it; it depends on the character he brings to it. Unpleasant manners are due to the want of training, or to the great majority of people having to earn their livelihood either in coarse employment or in businesses which take off the finer edge of manners. These disagreeables are what are usually termed vulgarities; they are the kind of things specially shocking to a precise and ultra-respectable class of persons of whom the type used to be, but perhaps not so much now, the old maiden lady. Their ideal of refinement is the elimination of all these breaches of a standard of outward propriety and decorum: and yet according to the real test for vulgarity these fastidious people may be as essentially vulgar as the roughest of workmen or the most demonstrative, obtrusive, and indelicate person of any of the classes whose manners they dislike. How vulgar most of us are may be seen from the fact that we should prefer the man of pleasant manners to the greatest of sages whose outward bearing was disagreeable; and there have been many instances of such sages who might be mentioned. They have not been able to take on the surface polish which is often taken to be the antithesis of vulgarity. But generally speaking outward vulgarities are amenable to treatment; while we see little likelihood of study or education altering essentially the fact that most people must remain vulgar,

simply because it is not in the nature of things for the majority to think the thoughts and experience the feelings of the highest type of men.

Sir Edward Fry selects as examples of prevalent vulgarity the politics of the man in the street, the vulgarisation of writing and reading, the cheap trip, and the "poisonous excitement of gambling". All these would undoubtedly disappear as if by magic if we could suppose that it is possible to create by any course of study the serious view of life which it is natural for Sir Edward to take, or for that admirable type of young person who avails himself of the advantages of the Birkbeck College. By all means let us have no stint of such institutions where the flower of the nation may find the means for cultivating its natural tastes, and where talent may be trained for public service. But why are not Birkbeck Colleges attractive to the young men who read the inferior parts of inferior newspapers, who have no taste for literature, and who are infected with the poisonous excitement of gambling? They are the contemporaries of the Birkbeck College young men, and therefore have been under the same social influences. Even if we put the blame on the defective education of the schools we cannot say they have been under any special disability. Yet they persist in their vulgar reading and their vulgar amusements. Such difference as exists between the Bodleian Library and "one of the new municipal libraries, founded perhaps by the munificence of Mr. Carnegie and supported by the rates", such natural difference there is in the characters of readers. With a high taste in literature we may believe that the contemptible reading matter now in the hands of all classes would disappear, and that there would no longer be poisonous excitement in gambling for minds that responded to lofty emotions. But the fact is this taste must be there implanted by nature or no prescription of study can produce it. Whether boys are reading the classics of Rome or Greece or the classics of England, amongst how many of them will you find the tone or the gesture which tells of the response to a higher order of thought and feeling? We have seen a boy in tears over a passage of the Bible, and his companions, with the same passage before their eyes, looking at him in stupid wonder and then bursting out in laughter at him. He was probably not a cleverer boy, was not better at arithmetic or any of the exact sciences, which Sir Edward Fry recommends as a corrective to vulgarity of thinking, but he had that particular temper of mind to which the mysteries of things appeal. We should not like to think that the "higher vulgarity" must cease to be before the lower vulgarities of which Sir Edward spoke can disappear. It is probably a root fact in human nature that what most men think and do will continue to be vulgar, that is have a certain kind of commonness, or rough-and-readiness which neglects the subtler aspects of most questions. There are many equity lawyers and even judges, but Sir Edward Fry has been distinguished amongst them for his refinement of view. They may be regarded as "vulgar" in comparison with Sir Edward; and the comparison holds when we are comparing man with man in regard to other things on which they form opinions and judgments. Excessive gambling, excessive athletics, excessive drinking, and excessive reading of printed banalities will most probably be checked by the growth of ordinary common sense, and the introduction of a little more variety into dull lives. They are fashions which will dwindle down as bicycling did, and as motor-car driving, as we see it at present, will no doubt in course of time. It is not because these particular excesses are vulgarities but because most of them are dangerous that we may hope for a change, and their disappearance to a large extent. Whatever is taken in hand by a great number of people, whether as politicians or cheap-trippers, will inevitably be vulgarised, but Nature herself seems to intend this; she preserves the average and the mean. For Sir Edward Fry and the Birkbeck collegians and all others who feel above the average there is the consolation, rather a barren one, of criticising this arrangement.

THE CITY.

THE device of borrowing money from a man and insuring his repayment out of the proceeds of the loan is new and ingenious, if audacious. The £1,000,000 debentures of the Japanese and Eastern Corporation are secured upon nothing, for the company has no assets of any kind: but they are issued at a premium of 25 per cent., and with the £250,000 thus obtained a policy is purchased in the Norwich Union, which extinguishes the debentures by drawings beginning in 1910 and ending in 1990. Of course these so-called debentures are merely preference shares of a highly speculative kind. For the payment of the 5½ per cent. interest we see no security whatever, except the potential prosperity of Japan, which belongs to the universe, and the ability of the directors, who have no special qualification for money-making in Japan. The experience of the three business men on the board has been in India, which to be sure is in the same hemisphere as Japan: the fourth is a director of the Norwich Union: the fifth is an ex-Commissioner of the Andaman Islands; and the sixth is a retired general. These gentlemen may certainly pick up good business in Japan, though the Japanese trader is generally reckoned rather a tough proposition. But in the event of their failing to earn the £55,000 necessary to pay the interest on the debentures, we really do not know what steps the trustees could take to protect the creditors. The share capital, which in the ordinary course ought to support the debentures, consists of 50,000 fully-paid shares, 20,000 of which are allotted to the underwriters, and 30,000 to the promoters, the S.T. Syndicate. Out of the proceeds of the debenture subscription 6½ per cent. is paid to the underwriters as commission, and £10,000 is paid to the S. T. Syndicate for preliminary expenses of registration and advertising, sums which are not in our opinion excessive: but then, in consideration of the promoters issuing the prospectus at the company's expense, the underwriters hand over to the promoters 5,000 of their shares and £3,500 in cash. So that the promoters get £3,500 in cold cash and 35,000 out of 50,000 shares for no other consideration that we can discover but the concoction of the prospectus. The promoters sell nothing to the company, which pays all their expenses, but they take nearly two-thirds of the capital, which halves the profits with the holders of the so-called debentures. We take off our hat to the S. T. Syndicate: its members are evidently promoters of "the old lock". But isn't the British public a little too experienced nowadays to play at this time-honoured game?

Fears of a further advance in the Bank rate in the near future are exercising a restraining effect upon Stock Exchange business, and although the Funds are affected primarily, the other markets are influenced sympathetically. The weakness of Consols and other high-grade investment securities appears to be accentuated, too, by sales at the instance of manufacturers, especially in the North, who are embarking more capital in their businesses now that trade is improving. We are likely to have relative tightness in money until the end of the year, and with New York snapping up all the fresh gold which arrives in London every week, with the Continental exchanges none too favourable, and with the heavy demands upon the Bank itself for gold for Egypt and South America, it is in the highest degree desirable that steps should be taken to make the existing rate effective or that there should be a still further advance. The disturbance will not be excessive, for money will not be really dear, as we have known it to be since the Boer war; moreover, it will only be temporary, and such a level of rates as we are promised is no particular obstacle to business—in other commodities besides stocks and shares—when general conditions are satisfactory, as at present, and when the outlook is bright.

Home railways furnish a good example of a market which can on occasion resist the contagion of the Funds. For a long time these stocks had been badly neglected. The general reduction in dividends which followed the big rise in coal during the South African war did not cause heavy realisations, because railway stock is generally well held by investors, and they foresaw

a recovery and were content to hold on. But while they held, they did not choose to buy more when values were low, being deterred by the depression in trade, the indifferent earnings, the slow recovery in dividends, and perhaps by the average man's constitutional disability to buy on a dull market. For some months past, however, industrial conditions have been improving steadily, and this is being reflected in larger earnings, which will mean better dividends. Further, the abundance of money in the coming new year will cause a general rise in investment stocks and will incidentally make the present high return on good railway issues impossible. There is singularly little floating stock—which is a tribute to the investor's capacity for holding on; and even on a small inquiry, the improvement in values is both prompt and appreciable. The recent improvement has discounted very little of the future, and the man who buys the better class of stock—such as North-Western, Great Western, Midland, North-Eastern, Brighton Preferred, South-Western Preferred, Lancashire and Yorkshire, or half a score of others which might be mentioned—is tolerably sure of a higher return upon his money in the next year or two, together with a substantial advance in capital value. The more speculative descriptions must be chosen, by those who affect them, when the moment looks favourable for an operation, but with them, too, the tendency will be upwards.

It was hoped that at the meeting of the Canadian Pacific Railway, held in Montreal on Wednesday, something definite and encouraging would be said on the subject of the land assets, and the company which, so rumour had it, was to be formed to deal with them. But in the cabled reports there is not a word on this subject, and presumably Sir Thomas Shaughnessy made no mention of it, though he gave a sufficiently encouraging statement as to the position and prospects, and referred to the intention to issue the balance of the authorised capital. This last will involve a bonus of about 6 per cent. to the shareholders, but it becomes a question whether the price of the shares is not high enough for the present. It is confidently predicted that they will reach 200 before the end of December, but they have already risen from 133 to about 180, and at one time in 1904 they stood at 112½, and the yield at the current price on the basis of 6 per cent. dividends is only 3½ per cent. But the earnings, it must be allowed, are on a remarkable scale, and the company's interests are enormous, and are but very imperfectly realised. As there is a good future for Canada, so there must be for the Canadian Pacific Railway, and compared with the stocks of some of the leading American railroads, the shares are very moderately priced. Ultimately, therefore, there will no doubt be a further substantial advance, and investors are buying towards this end. But it remains that the speculative position is not over strong, and after their rise the shares are dangerous to handle, unless one is prepared to keep them for some years. In Grand Trunks, the interest is confined to the Third Preference and Ordinary stocks. The prior stocks, down to and including the Second Preference, are established once again on the investment basis and yield up to 4½ per cent. There is a likelihood of the Third Preference receiving 3 per cent. for the current year, and some optimists look even for the full 4 per cent.—which seems unreasonable on the basis of the earnings to date; but it is quite possible—the market being prone to discount the future—that both the junior issues will be higher than at present before the actual declaration of a dividend.

There is not much backbone in the American market. The suggestion—which emanates from a source that is anything but alarmist—that the weekly returns of the New York Associated Banks do not represent actual conditions does not make for confidence, and the advance in money rates is an effectual bar to speculation in Wall Street. Besides, a more moderate level of value seems desirable in the best interests of the market. Trade in the United States is no doubt highly prosperous, but prices have been so persistently advanced by the large professional interests until now they are, as regards yield, virtually on the same basis

as bonds, and considerably increased dividends are necessary before stocks can be considered tempting. Besides, the public is out of the market, and will certainly not come in now. Foreign railways as a class are inactive. There is bidding for specialties, such as the out-of-the-way Argentine issues, for a reason which it is not easy to discover, unless it be that they have not had their turn. The better class of Argentines are steady. Earnings are on a large scale, but prices have already been sufficiently advanced, and such stocks as Buenos Ayres Great Southern, Buenos Ayres Westerns and Buenos Ayres and Rosarios are attractive only as investments, giving a yield up to 5½ per cent. Mexican Railway (Vera Cruz) stocks are what the market knows as "wobbly". The dividend on the First Preference stock is due next week, and it is not expected to exceed 5 per cent. per annum as compared with 6 per cent. a year ago. Further, the earnings are not improving, and with the operation of the new duties from this month they may conceivably become still more indifferent; while it is admittedly necessary to apply considerable sums for equipment out of revenue.

South African mines are still in a state of depression and scarcely anyone is to be found who has a good word to say for them. But prices now are undoubtedly low, and the mining industry, which must furnish the ultimate justification for the market in mining shares, is making headway rapidly. It might prove an inducement to dealings in this market, however, if managers were able to show a general reduction in working costs and increased dividends. There is not much prospect of increased speculation in the market until improved results are available. Speculators are already heavily committed at higher prices, and with the market in such a flabby condition they are not to be blamed if they decline to play into the hands of the big houses. West Australians keep tolerably cheerful. Most people are unable to forget the past and therefore a number of excellent shares which fulfil all the conditions of a promising mining speculation and give a high return are left in the hands of an appreciative few.

INSURANCE.

NEW YORK LIFE.

WE have had occasion recently to make several references to the discreditable management of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, and in commenting on a new policy produced by the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York it was appropriate to point out that the reputation of that company has remained unscathed in spite of the searching examination to which the American insurance companies are now being subjected. The case of the New York Life is intermediate between the other two, and more interesting than either. The directors of the New York Life must not be classed with the officials of the Equitable: they have done many indiscreet and questionable things, and diverse opinions about their conduct may be held with good reason; so much depends upon the point of view.

It is, for instance, admitted that the company on three occasions gave contributions of £10,000 each to the funds of the Republican party. These substantial subscriptions were duly appreciated until the facts were published when righteous indignation led the party leaders to decide that they must be returned. The cheques, or at least one of them, intended for this purpose were made payable to the order of J. P. Morgan and Co. from whom the New York Life were buying securities to an enormous amount. Mr. Perkins, the vice-president of the New York Life, is a partner in J. P. Morgan and Co. and now that this singular method of contributing to political funds has been found out Mr. Perkins says:—"It is a hobby of mine" that all such payments should be given the utmost publicity. If a man were to say frankly that it was in the interests of policy-holders to support one party against another party, as quite conceivably it might be, and if the donations appeared plainly in the accounts we might, or might not,

criticise the judgment of the managers, but the same suspicion would not attach to the payments as when they are made through the firm of a vice-president of the Company.

Another matter which has an unpleasant look is the payment of over £40,000 to Judge Hamilton who was not supposed to account for the money except verbally to Mr. McCall, the president of the New York Life. Mr. McCall suggests that Judge Hamilton will refund this money to the company if called upon to do so, failing which Mr. McCall will repay it himself. The leading American insurance paper publishes the charming suggestion that if it is necessary "to buy up legislators to kill off inimical legislation"—the suggested occupation of Judge Hamilton and his £40,000—"the legislature should be convicted of bribery, or the company acquitted of corruption". We scarcely think that the present committee of the legislature will bring in such a verdict of bribery as part of their findings.

The most unsatisfactory feature that has been made public in connexion with the New York Life is Mr. Perkins' partnership in the firm of J. P. Morgan and Co., from whom the New York Life has bought securities to the extent of many millions of dollars. Some of these transactions were managed with delightful simplicity: Mr. Perkins bought for the New York Life, and Mr. Perkins sold for J. P. Morgan and Co. Among other transactions was an extensive one in Mercantile Marine bonds which Mr. Perkins, or his firm, sold to Mr. Hyde of the Equitable at 92½, and which Mr. Perkins of J. P. Morgan and Co. sold to Mr. Perkins of the New York Life at 100, and on which the New York have lost very heavily. Such a transaction as this is scarcely a satisfactory return for a very substantial salary. The Mercantile Marine bonds did not look altogether desirable in an insurance company's balance-sheet, so immediately before 31 December, when the balance-sheet had to be made up, a large block of these bonds was sold to J. P. Morgan and Co., and in the early days of January they were repurchased by the New York Life. In regard to this Mr. Perkins replied in answer to a question: "I made it on my own responsibility, that was the best way to make that particular transaction". It is really very convenient for the chairman of a finance committee of an insurance company to be a partner in a big financial firm, until the dealings are made public.

Whatever extenuating circumstances may be pleaded in regard to various operations in the New York Life one thing is abundantly clear. If the New York Life is to be respected, Mr. Perkins must cease his connexion either with the Insurance Company or with J. P. Morgan and Co.

OLD WATERWAYS.—IV.

THE waterways of Holland had a charm of their own, when you were not pressed for time and travelled to study human nature. My favourite means of conveyance to the Low Countries was the old "Baron Osy", which sailed every Wednesday from the Tower for Antwerp. There was generally a festive party forward, smoking, singing and drinking bottled stout, but their exuberance calmed down as we got out of the river. The start was discreetly arranged so that dinner should be served when we had passed Gravesend, and when we met an angry swell the absentees were many. We took it easily while steaming up the winding Scheldt, with the steeple of Antwerp cathedral on all quarters in rapid succession, but one was getting into training for leisurely Dutch voyages. From Antwerp to Rotterdam by water was far more picturesque than by rail, and the memories of historical interest were endless where the Spaniards were fighting the amphibious Hollanders. But it was slow at best, especially against the strong tides from the north, and you took your chances. The channel, only navigable in fog by an experienced pilot, twisted about among the sandy islands and mudbanks, and was marked out by branches stuck on the shoals. Once we had the ill luck to get aground on one of those mudbanks: backing the engines was of no use, and we could only wait for the

tide to float us off. The stoical apathy of the skipper would have inspired the feeblest with confidence: he lit his pipe, smoked tranquilly and waited. Nor had the passengers much reason to complain of the delay, for I have seldom met with a more generous commissariat. So there was no lack of creature comforts on the North Holland Canal, though the boats were necessarily small and chiefly patronised by the peasantry. There the stoppages were due to ships facing a head wind, which blew them athwart the narrow channel. For the ninety long miles from Amsterdam to the Helder, you steered through a genuine Dutch panorama of queer-rigged craft of fantastic build, of windmills, steeples, red-brick villages and now and again mouldering market towns, with round cheeses piled like cannon-shot under the sheds. There was a perpetual coming and going of the stolid boers and their wives, and forward, veiled in clouds of tobacco-smoke, the deck was piled half-mast high with hampers of their dairy and garden produce. It was a trip worth taking once in a lifetime. So it was, but rather more so with the Rhine voyage from Rotterdam to Cologne. On the North Holland Canal you had occasional glimpses of the country and the cattle: on the Rhine for two mortal days you stared into sloping banks, the bulwarks of the low pasture lands against the spring floods. The passage was leisurely, but the fares were low and so the boats were popular. When I took a ticket on one occasion for reasons of my own, I found that the berths and sofas had been pre-engaged. It did not so much signify, and the only consequence was that when we tied up for the night at Emmerich, the frontier Prussian fortress, I had to go ashore and find a bed in the comfortable hotel. At Emmerich we laid in fresh supplies of cutlets, eggs and milk, for meals and tobacco—as invariably in Holland—were our great resource. The second day it rained incessantly, and though there was a glass shelter on the quarter deck, there was nothing to be seen but mist and drizzle, with the occasional swing of a windmill arm on the near horizon.

But it was almost worth going through that interminable day of drip to be landed in the life of Cologne. Sitting at dinner in a window of the Hôtel de Hollande, you looked down on a lively and busy scene. The railways had not then desecrated the shores of the exulting and abounding river and all the traffic was carried on the Rhine and all the bustle was on the river-front. The rush of feet, the measured tread of pickets marching across from the barracks at Deutz, sent their echoes from the Rhine bridge, where the tollman was gathering a rich harvest of fractions of groschen. The bridge was constantly lifting to give passage to floatage of all kinds, from barges in tow of tugs to timber-rafts from the Black Forest. Nor did the scene or the sounds lose in picturesqueness as the dark came down. Flashing lights were flitting about everywhere, or twinkling like fixed stars, lining the bridge, the banks and the terraced beer-gardens before the hotels over the way. Steamers preparing for a night start were snorting like so many hippopotami or shrieking like souls in pain. I was once tempted to try a night voyage myself. It was on a cargo-boat which did not profess to lay itself out for passengers, though they made you comfortable enough. There was a novelty in seeing the familiar scenery by moonlight which seduced me into lingering on deck till late: then turning in on a sofa I had myself called in time to see the morning sun rise red behind the rock of Ehrenbreitstein. I had taken my ticket for Mayence, but had enough of it at St. Goar, for we had shipped some horses for the Duke of Nassau's stables at Biebrich, and a stallion, who took to plunging and screaming, threw the rest into dire confusion. But in those days of steamers with small horse-power an idler's trip up the Rhine was always synonymous with dawdling. Engineering science had not tackled the obstructions. They had not blasted the rocks of the Lurlei where an old gentleman still woke the echoes with his horn, nor had they cleared the channel of the Bingerloch where many a craft and raft came to grief. Country innkeepers and stewards must alike lament the advent of expresses running under the castled banks. In the olden time, from every village with a castle to show, a boat might put forth with British

tourists, dexterously catching the rope that hitched it on behind the paddle-box. On forlorn little piers you saw the Eilwagen, caked with dust, the postillion in faded blue and yellow, with his feathered hat and his horn, waiting to take any chance traveller to some Heaven-abandoned townlet in the wilds. The river was the main artery, and there you were sure to meet any acquaintances bound for the Baths or for Northern Germany. The stewards made the most of the short season and had as good a time as the innkeepers. They sold panoramas and illustrated riverine guide-books at fancy prices. But their great opportunity was in the confusion of debased and half-obliterated coinage, for you zigzagged between thalers and groschen and florins and kreutzers. Often some helpless victim would hold out his hand and humbly ask the extortioner to help himself.

The chief patrons of the Rhine boats were English tourists: there were few Americans, and not many natives travelling for pleasure. It was very different on the steamers on the Upper Elbe, where English travellers were comparatively rare. But the Saxons revelled in the beauties of their own romantic river, and the time to be initiated into Saxon al fresco life was in the sweltering heat of the dog days or at Whitsuntide. In Whitsun week all Dresden went out holiday-making. The boats were crowded with family parties, with students smoking china pipes and trollying out patriotic choruses, and with spectacled savants bound on botanising expeditions behind the Prebisch Thor and slinging botanical cases ballasted with dinner. Going up stream you had ample time to admire the miniature grandeurs of the Saxon Switzerland, but en revanche you came down with a rush, and it needed skilful navigation to effect the stoppages safely. On the Upper Danube the pace was swifter still, and as wood was cheap there, the skippers seemed to be reckless. They slackened speed on the rapid current, came round with a sharp swing and then steamed up full power to cast the ropes on to the jetty. As often as not there was a rending of wood and crashing of paddle-wheels, but it was all in the day's work. I remember when I saw the Danube at Donauwerth, I admired the ease with which some small boys swam the swift and shallow stream, although landing far down on the opposite bank, but bethought myself that a steamer to negotiate it safely ought to have a remarkably shallow draught. In fact a couple of days afterwards, half-way between Ratisbon and Passau we were shipwrecked; at least we came to grief on a sunken rock and had to tie up to the bank for repairs. It was still Campbell's picture of the lonely Danube with its untrodden shore. Not a peasant's hut or a soul was in sight: there was a wide stretch of low willow copse and swampy meadow, and except midges and water-birds the only creatures we saw were a herd of half-wild horses who trotted up to inspect us. We were quit for a few hours' delay, though we had another narrow shave near Passau and nobody seemed either surprised or put out.

ALEXANDER INNES SHAND.

VILLAGE PORTRAITS.

I.—DISINHERITED.

THE troop of children that has trailed slowly home from school, dropping detachments at cottage gates and field-stiles, finally scatters at a corner where a finger-post offers the handsome choice of direction "To London"—"To Trucker's Hatch". The main body, in charge of a biggish girl, disappears among a group of cottages on the high road; a little company of three strikes up the narrow turning and begins the last stage of the daily seven miles to school and home again. The lane is a rough one at the best of times, with an air of leading nowhere; and anyone who has stood in some autumn twilight to watch the little regiment straggle down a muddy hollow between high bramble hedges, till they are swallowed up in the misty gloom of a vague tree-hung bottom, may perhaps make guesses at the home waiting for the travellers, and at the entertainment they find at the other end of the muddy or dusty trudge, the long march and countermarch day

by day some eight or nine mortal years. If a stranger should be curious enough to explore the recesses of Trucker's Hatch, he will find that the lane, presently become a green track, widens out into a long slip of ragged common, a few acres of pasturage struggling with gorse and fern; a little farther on he will come to a few fenced fields, a black-timbered thatched cottage leaning perilously over its potato-patch, and a tumble-down little farmstead—a squat brick dwelling-house, an iron cart-shed, one hayrick, a desolation of disused fowlhouses and empty styers. This, common and houses together, is Trucker's Hatch, with a population of nine souls. Its school-contingent is now three small girls: three years ago Willy Avery from the farm and Johnny Mace from the cottage passed out of their Standards together, and there are no lads at present at the Hatch to take their places. Willy, best of boys, a model for attendance and attention, devoured the learning fed to him with the easy regularity of a chaff-cutter; he won a scholarship and was sent to the grammar school in the county town, and finally fitted himself for a clerkship in a suburban bank. Johnny, tortured with vast labour into a semblance of spelling and writing, is at length delivered by the age limit from the unwilling hands of authority, and in a few months of ecstatic holiday about the fields forgets all the lessons of his bondage. He forgets after a time the frightful presence of the impossible sums which he used to chatter in his sleep, the frantically conned page which flickered before his eyes; he does not as yet forget the impression of eight years' assiduous contempt from the schoolmaster, as for a sort of change-living in the educational family, a creature of an inferior order, made the derision of the class and the especial foil of his mate the conquering Will. Even when the thing called nature-study impressed itself on the great motive intelligences of the sphere and finally reached the regions of Trucker's Hatch, Johnny did not get the chance that would seem to be in his way; he, the silent stalker of hedgerow mysteries, cunning in traps and snares, learned in nests and eggs and wild flowers, got no hearing from Mr. Dempster at the school, enthusiastic in the new subject, getting-up the position of the pole-star from a text-book and after a half-holiday's field expedition sending a brace of cockchafers to the vicar for identification. Johnny's hand, which went up in a quite unwonted way at first, soon learned to keep its place; and the new lore was inculcated without further interruption. But all is done at last, and Johnny is free to live the life which, so long as he can remember, has been put before him as little better than a beast's. The beasts are always friendly, at least; and he would like most of all to be a carter-boy and have to look after horses, and to learn to plough like his father. But as no one seems to want a carter-boy, he is put to minding the stock on the common, half a dozen poor cows and a pony belonging to the farm. He idles the day long about the gorse-clumps and the beds of bracken, often alone from daylight to dark; he talks to Duchess or Soldier for company, cuts patterns upon hazel-sticks or plaits-rushes, fills his hat with blackberries or nuts; the events of his life are the coming of the Wednesday grocer's cart, the chasing of his charge out of a neighbouring mangold field and the stopping of the ever-fresh gaps in the neglected hedge. This repair he does to the utmost of his skill and materials, with a sort of make-believe of man's work, driving his stakes and wattling in the boughs with a touch of ancestral skill. A week's downpour under the shelter of an old sack sets him on building himself a little bower framed of hazel-rods, the walls stuffed with fern and the roof of grass and heather thatch. He fashions a door to open on withy hinges, and windows wherefrom to observe his herds, and here he sits through dripping days, making his toys or playing airs rude enough for Tityrus on an elder whistle, till the gathering dark tells him it is somewhere near the end of his day, and he may call the cows together and drive them home. He rarely takes the old road down to the village: sometimes he is sent to do the Saturday marketing, and finds old schoolmates serving behind the counter at the general shop, or sauntering up from the cricket-field. At the universal

gathering at the yearly Fair he meets others of his own time, entered on various careers—one in the Hall gardens, one in a training stable, others on leave from the regiment or the ship. He envies none of these their lot: there is only one with whom he would care to change places, George Prevett, the cowman's lad at White Rails, who had the same desires as Johnny, but has had his wish. George leads the plough-team and goes to market with the bullocks, he does hedging in solemn earnest, with a billhook and hedger's-gloves of his own; he helps the thatcher on the ricks, and goes out, whistling in solitary importance, with the scythe and the old mare in the cart to cut clover for the stock. He looks down, it is to be feared, on the hapless cow-tender, and the sting of his superiority goes home.

Sometimes on Saturday evenings of summer weather there comes across the common a traveller oddly out of keeping with the scene, whose black coat and town-boots have fared roughly in the five miles of dust between the railway and the Hatch. Willy Avery, coming down to spend a Sunday with the old people at the farm, nods and gives the familiar "How's self?" as he passes the ragged figure perched on the accustomed gate or stretched at length beneath the shade of the gorse-bushes. At such moments of obvious comparison, how does each view the other's destiny? What does the bank-clerk at a pound a week think of the cow-minder, counting slow hour after hour in all weathers about the lonely common, for his bare keep; and what does the creature of boundless leisure in sun and wind say to the slave of rigid rules, shut in at eternal sums till the level sun strikes in over the wire blind and dismisses him to the streets and his stifling attic?

Willy reads his newspaper, and perhaps by this time has gathered that there is among thinking people a reactionary tendency to consider him and his kind not so wholly the salt of the nation as Mr. Dempster gave him to understand they were at school. Johnny Mace reads nothing—not even the literature that lies at hand, the scraps of the county journal which the grocer's cart drops and the wind disperses about the gorse—and with no one to tell him of wonders, he may spend the whole of his life after the present idyllic fashion, and never know that anyone has doubted the perfectness of the method of reward and discouragement under which he was reared. It will be an ironic turn of fortune, not without precedent, perhaps, if Willy should feel the set of opinion, and conscious of round shoulders and paler blood, learn the easy catchword about the land; while Johnny, tough-framed, tanned and bleached by sun and weather, idles about the waste acres, never to put his hand to that desired carter's whip, or to have a billhook and hedger's mittens of his own. For him there will be no new fancies about the significance of the symbol where the lane's end joins the high road, "To London"—"To Trucker's Hatch".

"THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL."

THE story of the Prodigal Son is, of course, one of the best stories in the world, and one of the best themes for an artist to work on. It can be taken from so many points of view, and be interpreted in so many ways; and innumerable variations can be played on it. The most obvious way of treating it is to make it a story of penitence and forgiveness, of dead sea fruit and the inexhaustible kindness of a father's heart. Next to this, the most obvious way is to take as pivot the two brothers—the eternal contrast between good young man and bad young man. Mr. Hankin is, I imagine, temperamentally not a preacher, nor yet a man whose heart and pen throb readily to the music of what we call the great human motives. I can see him approving, and even envying, the perfect Jacobean cadence of "for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found"; but I can see no tears in his eyes while he murmurs to himself the familiar passage. It is natural that he should have chosen to treat the story in the second of the ways I have mentioned. An emotional presentment might be made of the two brothers, with a fervid appeal to sympathy for one or both of them. But, unlike the father,

they do not compel emotional presentment. They can be treated comedically, with a measure of sympathy claimed for one or both, or with no sympathy claimed for either. Mr. Hankin claims sympathy for neither. And he vanquishes the difficulty of the father by relegating him to be a mere tool in the hands of his first-born. Mr. Samuel Jackson is a wealthy manufacturer of cotton; but it is Henry, his first-born, who has made the business brilliantly solid; and it is Henry, throughout, who directs what shall be done with the inconvenient prodigal, Eustace. Eustace has not, apparently, been wasting his substance in riotous living. He simply failed to succeed commercially in Australia, losing the thousand pounds with which he had been sent thither. Since that time, he has been through various vicissitudes of poverty, and, having worked his passage back to England, he goes to his father's house merely for the sake of a meal and a bed. Finding how very prosperous and important a person his father has become in the meantime, he determines to get something more than a fleeting hospitality. His father offers him a berth in the cotton business. But his brother vetoes that notion. And Eustace cordially acquiesces. He has no talent for business. Besides, he doesn't like work. He wants to be a man of leisure. But his father won't have him at home doing nothing, and orders him out of the house. Very well: he will go straight to the nearest work-house. Father and brother see how fatal it would be to their rather precarious position in the county, and to the chance of Mr. Samuel Jackson's election for the local constituency, if Eustace were thrust on the parish. Thus Eustace is in a position to dictate terms. Mr. Jackson proposes to send him back to Australia with another thousand pounds. Eustace refuses that. He points out that it is just as easy to fail commercially in Australia as to do so in England: he has tried it, and knows. The brother sees the sense of this, and advises the father to accede to Eustace's demand for a yearly allowance of three hundred pounds. The father draws the line at two hundred and fifty, and a cheque, on these terms, for the first quarter. Presenting this to Eustace, he tells him that he may write from time to time to let the family know how he is getting on. "Make it three hundred", says Eustace, "and I won't write". But Mr. Jackson folds his hands behind him. Eustace with a shrug of the shoulders, and a friendly nod, goes forth into the world. And that is the end of the comedy.

A pure, undiluted comedy, as you may perceive from this slight sketch of it. As there is little in the way of action, and nearly all the fun depends on the adroitness with which one of the characters turns inside out the conventional arguments of the other characters, Mr. Hankin has been much likened by the critics to Mr. Bernard Shaw. It is quite true that Mr. Hankin has come—what young playwright, nowadays, could fail to come?—somewhat under Mr. Shaw's influence. But the likeness of Mr. Hankin's play to what Mr. Shaw would have made of it is a merely technical and superficial likeness. Mr. Hankin does not set out to prove anything, or to probe anything. He merely observes what is going on in the world, and is moved to communicate to us his good-natured amusement. Mr. Shaw, observing a prodigal son, would have knitted his brows, outstretched his index finger, and harangued us to the effect that the prodigal was perfectly right, as a citizen, in his refusal to work under the present conditions of labo(u)r, and that these conditions are irrational, dangerous, and ought to be abolished. And this harangue would have been couched in the form of a delicious comedy. But let us not, merely because Mr. Shaw is ever a dramatist with a purpose, lend grudging ears to the dramatist without one. Mr. Archer is distressed by Mr. Hankin's failure to thrust under our eyes some "general idea, whether moral or social". He gropes industriously around for that idea, and is half-persuaded that Mr. Hankin intended "a scathing satire on our public schools". (What *would* life be without Mr. Archer?) Mr. Hankin "diagnoses" for him "a morbid condition, but gives no hint as to how it may be cured or might have been avoided". In fact, Mr. Hankin is not Mr. Shaw, and stands

condemned therefore by Mr. Archer, who, oddly enough, is never tired of throwing cold water on the serious intentions that underlie Mr. Shaw's dramaturgy. Apparently, Mr. Shaw ought to be Mr. Hankin, and Mr. Hankin ought to be Mr. Shaw. Then Mr. Archer would be happy. But, as Mr. Archer is not a magician, had he not better take people as he finds them, and merely investigate whether this one and that are doing their own best? Mr. Hankin may be trusted to have found what is the line in drama best adapted to his own temperament and talent. And, as his latest comedy of observation is delightfully amusing, and true to life—qualities that Mr. Archer does not deny it to possess—why should we, like Mr. Archer, dismiss those qualities as "rather a meagre outcome for four solid acts"? Heaven forbid that I should discourage Mr. Hankin, or any other playwright, from putting into his plays as much as possible of what Rossetti, in a memorable phrase, called "fundamental brain-work", and of what Mr. Archer (not less hauntingly, I fear) calls "intellectual elbow-grease". But there is no lack of this commodity in "The Return of the Prodigal". And it is Mr. Hankin's own. That is a virtue, from my point of view. I should not rejoice with Mr. Archer at the sight of Mr. Hankin picking the brains of, or (let us say) rubbing elbows with, a person so entirely different from himself as is Mr. Shaw.

It seems to me absurd to blame Mr. Hankin for not telling us why Eustace is deficient in will-power—why, though he is far more clever than his highly successful brother, he continues to be an abject failure. Eustace himself does not know the reason. He supposes that he was born so. And he makes no effort to fight against the unlucky accident. He was born to loaf, if he should have the chance; and, so soon as he sees the chance, he uses all such energy as he has to grasp it firmly. He is the philosophic loafer—a type that exists in real life; and the type has been admirably drawn for us by Mr. Hankin. I have but one fault to find. Eustace declares that of course he, like everyone else, "would like to be a highly respected, prosperous member of the community". I do not think that the true Eustace—the *widely typical* Prodigal Son—would have felt that. He would have had an innate aversion from respectability and prosperity. These things would have bored him, except perhaps for a while. I remember reading a sonnet, written by a not yet famous poet, describing the gloom that must have settled on the soul of the Prodigal Son after the first flood of sentiment was forgotten, and the novelty of comfort had lost its edge. How slowly and smugly the days passed in that admirable household, shut off from all the chances and changes that alone could make life worth living! Wistfully, the Prodigal looked back on his vagabondage, yearning as much for its miseries as for its pleasures—"Oh for the husks of freedom that were sweet!" I wish Mr. Hankin had adumbrated for us this side of the Prodigal's story. For a moment, indeed, there is a glimpse of it. "My life", says Eustace, "hasn't been successful. It hasn't even been honourable. But," he adds with a ruminating smile, "it was devilish interesting". That, however, is the only glimpse. For the rest, Eustace would evidently be well content to settle down permanently under his father's "roof", if his father would consent to the arrangement. So subtly right does the quoted sonnet seem to me that I wish Mr. Hankin would reconstruct his whole play in accord to it. But this would necessitate for Eustace a loving father, who would implore his son not to leave him; and the curtain would have to fall on a broken heart. It would, in fact, necessitate the sort of thing that is not at all in Mr. Hankin's line. And I must not let Mr. Archer catch me tripping just where I have caught him.

MAX BEERBOHM.

OPERA'S OPPORTUNITY LOST.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES MANNERS and their company played capital opera to huge audiences all last week at the Camden Theatre; before that they had done the same thing at the Kennington Theatre; this week they are doing the same thing at the Queen's Theatre, Leeds. The company was equally successful in Leicester,

although it was said that over a thousand out-of-works were obliged to sleep in the workhouse passages; and the trade depression in Birmingham made no difference to the size of the audiences nor the quantity of the takings. All this must, of course, be highly gratifying to Mr. Manners and his wife, but they must be rather puzzled when they compare—or rather, contrast—their suburban and provincial experience with their London experience. Last year—was it last year? last year, I, blue-spectacled, was idling in green fields, which I could not see, far from the noisy haunts of men—last year or thereabouts Mr. Manners gave London a chance of getting a permanent opera for itself, or at any rate of laying the foundations for the establishment of such an opera. I described his scheme here at the time, but it is worth while recalling that he ran a season at Drury Lane, with a chorus of one hundred, a band of seventy, and all his best principals. Any loss he undertook to meet; any profit he promised to hand over to a fund which should go towards a national opera. The net result was that Mr. Manners had the dismal pleasure of writing cheques to make up the difference between his takings and his expenses. And now he must be puzzling himself as to why London will not come out to hear opera and why suburbia and the provinces do.

The London chorus and orchestra numbered nearly double the provincial; the principals were the pick of the Moody-Manners companies; the scenery was all that could be desired; the performances, I am told, were admirable. Of course—and thank goodness for it—there were no Melbas or other profit-eating stars to attract the vulgar herd; but the ensemble was better than it is at Covent Garden and the chorus was better. I have never, in any opera house, in England or abroad, found a better trained chorus than that of Mr. Manners. They can sing and they take the trouble to act, while at Covent Garden there is little singing and no acting. The failure of the season cannot possibly, therefore, be set down to the inferiority of the representations. Simply the public would not come in large enough numbers to make it a financial success; and Mr. Manners, finding he had cast his pearls before swine, very wisely determined not to do it again.

Something has been lost to music in London: many Londoners must feel that they have lost much; but I am not sure that much has been lost to music in England. In giving fine representations of the greatest works of musical art all over the country Mr. Manners is perhaps, if we could only see far enough ahead, doing as useful a work as anything that could be done in London. The provinces undoubtedly need a lot of educating; and possibly when they are educated they will teach us a lesson and by example shame us into starting a permanent opera of our own. At present, if Mr. Manners could not succeed, it may well be doubted whether any other enterprise would succeed, even if it were called National—opera, call it by what nickname you please, is a flower that has never thrived in London. A national opera would not be one whit better than that of Mr. Manners. Even if it were a State affair it could not be made self-supporting if more was spent on singers, band and scenery than Mr. Manners spent. But of that presently. A national opera without State help, depending entirely upon subscribers and guarantors, would speedily meet the ignominious fate that overtook the concern now known as the Palace Theatre; and Mr. Manners is better engaged in giving good operatic performances in the country and suburbs, and thus earning money honestly, than in losing money by trying to provide London with an institution which at present London does not seem to want.

Mr. Manners' success in Kennington, Camden Town and so on really supplies us with one reason for his non-success at Drury Lane. The suburbs are thickly populated with people with a little money in their pockets and a great deal of time on their hands in the evenings. Central London is nearly uninhabited: only a few honest old-fashioned souls spend their evenings above their shops—and they are not the sort to go out to hear new-fangled opera. The rest have gone out to the suburbs or even further afield. Now, if the dweller in North London can see the Moody-Manners company at Camden Town, why should he and his

family take the trouble to come as far as Drury Lane? The orchestra is bigger and the chorus is bigger; but the principals are the same, and a chorus of one hundred sounds no fuller in Drury Lane than one of fifty in the average suburban theatre, while, if noise is wanted, more can be got out of a band of fifty in the suburban theatre than out of seventy in Drury Lane. For scarcely any advantage at all, then, paterfamilias has to pay train fares, 'bus or tram fares, often cab fares, get home late at night, lose his sleep and catch colds. He spends more money, gets at best the same pleasure, and has to endure untold pains and penalties. Why should he do it? Apparently he has asked himself the question and answering Why? determined not to do it. As time goes on, more and more will be found of his way of thinking. What with electric cars and motor 'buses ever more and more people are going to live outside London. The one disadvantage is precisely what affects musical and theatrical enterprises in central London—it is difficult or at least uncomfortable to get home late at night. If your last car or 'bus is full you must take a cab; and the dwellers in outer suburbia, with cash enough to spend on amusements at their own door, cannot afford many cabs. As a consequence we see theatres—and paying theatres—being run up all around London; and the present fashionable theatres will have to depend more and more on the wealthy who keep their own carriages and live in the West End.

It may be remarked that Covent Garden manages to flourish; and the reply is that Covent Garden is a fashionable institution in no way dependent on the support of the general public. Covent Garden would not keep open its doors for a fortnight if the stalls were half-a-guinea and the gallery one shilling, and the other seats in proportion: it is the guinea and thirty-shilling stalls and the boxes that keep Covent Garden alive. As for the people who fill the gallery and cheaper places, some of them are students who take every possible opportunity of hearing opera; some of them are worshippers of stars and idolisers of mighty names; but so far as I can trust to my experience of many years ago, the bulk of them go to see the society people in the boxes and the gorgeous dresses and diamonds. Perhaps not everyone recognises to what an extent the Philistine regards the auditorium of the opera as merely a living fashion-plate. The late Mr. Percy Betts—a good-humoured, commonsense personage, but a thorough-going Philistine—pathetically complained more than once of the darkening of the auditorium in the Wagner operas—in fact this, I believe, was the secret of his long antagonism to all things Wagnerian. One of the main pleasures, he used to say, of the opera was seeing the people who were present and their dresses; and so, in the most poignant moments of, say, "Tristan and Isolde", he was consumed with wrath because he was yearning to stare through his opera-glass at Lady So-and-so's diamonds and couldn't. He is dead; but his spirit yet liveth.

In spite of all this, London lost the opportunity of trying an interesting experiment by its refusal to back Mr. Manners. We shall get a National opera some day, and there will have to be many an experiment and many a failure first. One thing is certain: subscribers and guarantors will not ensure the stability of an opera. It must be a state affair. We do not want any County Council interfering with it, for two reasons: first, the County Council muddles nearly everything it meddles with, and, second, it would not be just to tax London for a place of amusement used by people from every part of the country. The Government must build a national house, endow it, and let it, under conditions, to a manager. That is the only way the thing has ever been made to succeed, and I don't think it can be made to succeed in any other way.

JOHN F. RUNCIMAN.

MOTOR-TOURING.

VIII.—SORDID DETAILS.

TO keep a motor-car in order on the road is a somewhat different problem from that produced by the conditions of ordinary day-to-day use, when the car returns to its own garage every evening. An even

closer watch, if possible, must be kept on wear and tear of machinery when the car is touring, and the slightest defect must be remedied at once, in order that there shall be no interruption to the journey caused by the necessity for waiting for new parts. In order that this routine examination and attention should go on automatically the chauffeur should have a very strict programme of duty laid down for him while the car is touring; and the owner himself should make a point of keeping an eye, not only on appearances, but on the hidden deeds of the chauffeur, so that he may be reasonably sure that the car is being looked after.

Every evening, on arriving at the hotel where the night is to be spent, the car should be run on to the grid and have all movables taken out of the body and locked up in some convenient place. The cushions should then be taken out also, and the car roughly-washed. This the chauffeur will decline to do himself, and, if he has been driving all day, it is not reasonable to expect him to do it; but he ought to make a point of being there and superintending the work of the carriage-washer, who is, as a rule, all too liberal with the water supply, and is given to playing the hose on the engine if he is allowed to. A really good chauffeur will not need to be reminded of his duty in this matter; but with most of them it is as well to point out that if they choose to employ someone else to wash the car the responsibility for it is still on their shoulders, and that they must superintend the operation. When the car has been roughly washed down and drained the wheels should be jacked up and the tyres very carefully examined. If the day's run has been over flush roads, and especially over roads where there are patches of new metal, it will probably be found that small pieces of flint have worked themselves into the covers; and these must all be carefully removed with a penknife, the cuts filled up with stopping-solution, and the tyres deflated. Of course the car must not be allowed to rest on deflated tyres, and they must not be blown up again until the solution is quite dry. All this is a troublesome operation, and will be shirked by an idle chauffeur, but on its proper performance will depend much of the usefulness and endurance of the tyres, and, consequently, the success of the tour; for to avoid punctures is to be saved from one of the most common and disagreeable causes of breakdown and delay. After the tyres have been attended to the petrol tanks should be filled.

So much should certainly be done overnight; whether the rest is done then or in the morning may be left to the chauffeur, provided it is done, and done properly, before the car sets out for the day's run. If the chauffeur is an early riser it is perhaps better to leave the examination of the machinery until the morning, for it is better done by daylight than by lamplight. In the morning, then, at least two hours before the time for starting, the oil reservoirs and grease-cups should be filled, the engine brushed over with paraffin and cleaned, and its exposed moving parts oiled by hand. It should then be started up and run, the chauffeur observing it very closely to see that everything is in order, and if anything is loose or in need of adjustment it should be tightened or adjusted on the spot. Any serious piece of work the necessity for which may have been observed during the previous day, such as the grinding of valves or taking-up of brakes, should not be left till morning, but should have been seen to overnight, so that nothing but adjustment is left for the morning. When everything on the engine has been examined the chauffeur should proceed to go over the whole car, beginning with the dust-cap of the axle on the left-hand front wheel, passing round the back and up to the cap of the front wheel, and finishing with the Ackermann steering bar. The hand should be passed over every nut and bolt, and anything loose tightened with a spanner. This operation properly performed will take half an hour, and, regularly and honestly done, may save many hours and sovereigns. When it is finished the chauffeur can wash and go to breakfast, leaving the car to be thoroughly rubbed over and polished by the cleaner—a good hour's work. By the time it is finished the chauffeur will have breakfasted and packed his bag, and be ready for the road. The cushions, properly dusted

and polished, should now be put back, and the contents of the car packed into it again. The chauffeur starts the engine, and takes a last look round, especially careful to pass his hand over the wing-nuts of the tyres to see that they are all tight and in place. He is then ready to drive round, collect his passengers and their luggage, and set out on the day's journey.

It is a good plan to give the chauffeur a few pounds at a time and let him make all payments on account of the car, entering them in a book which should be given him for that purpose, and which he should produce with the balance of the money, every week when his wages are paid.

BRIDGE.

THE PLAY OF THE THIRD HAND IN A NO TRUMP GAME.

WE will take up our subject where we left it, some four weeks ago, with the play of the third hand against a call of No Trumps. It is a good wholesome general rule that it can never be good play to finesse against one's partner, but this rule admits of considerable exception in the case of the third player in a No Trump game. When an adverse call of No Trumps has been made, it is of such supreme importance to establish the suit originally led, that any finesse should be taken by the third hand which offers a fair chance of defeating the cards exposed in dummy. If there is nothing of any value in dummy, then any finesse is bad. In this case the third hand should play his highest card of the suit led, or the lowest of two or more such cards in sequence, and leave all the finessing to his partner, and he should also endeavour to help his partner as much as possible by returning a higher card than the best one in dummy, so as to force the dealer to cover on the second round. It seems hardly necessary to say that when the third player holds four of the suit originally led, and the dummy puts down three, the dealer cannot possibly hold more than two, as the original leader must have at least four. It follows that the dealer's remaining card, whatever it may be, is bound to be played on the second round, therefore it is unnecessary for the third player to lead a strengthening card, he should rather show his partner four of the suit by returning a low one. The time when a strengthening card becomes so useful is when dummy has two only of the suit. Suppose the leader opens with 3 of diamonds, dummy puts down 10, 5, and the third player holds king, knave, 4, 2. The third player puts on the king which wins the trick, and he should at once return the knave, in direct opposition to the old whist rule of showing four of the suit by returning a low one. The situation is so obvious, the dealer has two diamonds, one of which is very probably the queen, and if the third player returns a small one, his partner has to put on the ace to beat the 10 in dummy and the queen remains mistress of the situation, whereas by returning the knave both the queen and 10 are killed. All this is only common sense, but common sense is a faculty which many would-be bridge-players seem very devoid of at the bridge table, however well furnished they may be with it in other walks of life. They get an idea fixed in their heads, such as that it is right to return the highest of three and the lowest of four, and they fail to see that the rule must be varied under differing conditions.

When there is a high card exposed in the dummy, the situation is entirely altered. In this case any reasonable finesse, not only may, but must, be taken by the third hand. Holding ace, 10, and another, the finesse of the 10 should always be made, if either the king or queen is in the dummy hand. It is quite possible that the leader has both of the other honours, but if he has only one of them, and the other is in the dealer's hand, nothing can be lost by finessing the 10, as the dealer is bound to win at least one trick in the suit in any case. When the knave and two others are in dummy, on the other hand, nothing can be gained by finessing.

It is at all times radically wrong to take a finesse by which nothing can be gained, and this particular com-

bination affords a common instance of such a mistake. When the dummy puts down knave and two others, and the third hand holds ace, 10, and another, it is impossible to place the cards so that the finesse of the 10 can gain a trick. The original leader may have both the king and queen, but in this case nothing is gained by the finesse as all the other cards must fall—if he has only one of them, it is absolutely impossible to avoid losing a trick in the suit, and the only result of the third hand finessing is to mystify his partner by leaving him in doubt as to the position of the ace. The finesse of the 10 is in this case a bad one because nothing can be gained by it, but the same finesse with either king or queen in dummy is a good one, because nothing can be lost by it, and much may be gained.

This is the principle which should govern the play of the third hand—to take any reasonable finesse which may result in profit if the cards lie favourably, but never to hold up a high card of his partner's suit when nothing can be gained by it, and when the only result of his so doing will be the complete mystification of his unfortunate partner. For instance, it is obviously useless to finesse ace, 9, and another, with the king or queen in dummy, as the dealer cannot hold either king, knave, 10, or queen, knave, 10, and therefore one at least of those three cards is marked in the dealer's hand.

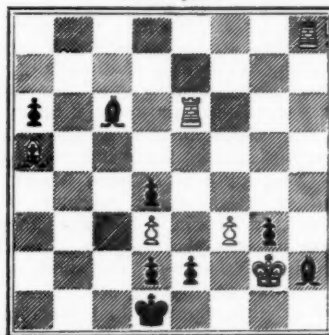
Certainly, a player should finesse more boldly as third hand in a No Trump game than at any other time, but even then his finesses should be tempered by judgment and by careful calculation of what high cards his partner may hold, and he will sometimes realise that he will render his partner more assistance by showing him at once the exact state of affairs than by taking a wild and generally useless finesse.

In this again, as in nearly every point during the temporary partnership at the bridge tables, the plainer and more straightforward the game is made, the better it will be for the interests of both partners.

CHESS.

PROBLEM 45. By H. ROSENBAUM.

Black 8 pieces.



White 6 pieces.

White to play and win.

PROBLEM 46. By M. HAVEL.—White (five): K—QR8, Q—KKt8, R—K6, R—Q5, B—K1. Black (four): K—QR5, Kt—KKt7, P—QB3, P—QB7. White to mate in two moves.

PROBLEM 47. By W. HOLZHAUSEN.—White (three): K—KR2, R—KR1, R—KKt2. Black (two): K—KR2, B—QR2. White mates in three moves.

Solutions to above will be duly acknowledged.

KEY TO PROBLEM 44: 1. K—Kt3. If R×R, 2. Q×P, &c.

NEWSPAPERS AND CHESS.

There has been a good deal of complaint in the newspapers because Tarrasch and Marshall are withholding the games in their match from immediate publication. Mr. Lawrence calls it "a short-sighted policy, which we trust will not obtain in similar contests in the future, for unless the chess public is enabled

to play over games while the interest is still warm, it will be found that not only interest but the necessary material support will be lacking". The implication that chess masters are men of fortune and that by these tactics they will kill their goose is surely unconsidered and inadequate. The mistake these writers make is in considering the score of a game of chess as news which unless immediately transmitted to the world loses all value. Why this should be so is a mystery. For a long time chess enthusiasts have obtained the products of chess masters with their halfpenny or penny paper but these gratuities must not be looked upon as vested interests even though the whole public are the beneficiaries. So far no chess master has had to submit to the indignity of being dubbed "a bloated millionaire" nor is there any likelihood that the immediate future will materially alter his condition. But we know of no reason why he should not try to get something out of the public for the pleasure, interest and instruction which are derived from playing his games. In a nutshell, judging from the past, if each game in this match appeared in every newspaper in the country within twenty-four hours after it was concluded the players would not be one penny better off. Not only that, but in consequence the publication in book form afterwards is looked upon as a sort of "reprint" and is generally doomed to failure, while the necessity for paying anything to see the games played is regarded as almost in the nature of charity when they can be had for nothing in the next issue of the local paper.

Chess differs from other things in that the score of a game adequately and absolutely represents everything that transpires over the board, and the youngest reporter on the newspaper staff can be entrusted with writing it correctly. Where is the reporter who could really convey a tithe of what transpires on the football field, the cricket field, the billiard table, the concert room or the theatre? If anybody is really interested in any of these things he must be at the appointed time and place to see the contest or the performance. On the other hand a game of chess produced by the best players in the world can be examined in the library or in the drawing-room a day or a century after it is played, and its effect is only modified by the particular capacity of the reader. The score is a complete record for all time. On this very account chess can never prove very remunerative to its professors. Publicity may be necessary for wrestlers, footballers, or prodigies, but it remains to be shown what benefit professional chess-players have derived from it.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CITIZEN SOLDIERS AND MILITARY TRAINING.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Folkestone,

26 September, 1905.

SIR,—I trust that nothing that I said in my previous letter to the SATURDAY REVIEW will be construed to be a depreciation of our Volunteers. I only wish to show that it is not easy to be a good soldier and very difficult to be a good officer and to point out how their zeal and natural soldierly qualities may be cultivated to complete efficiency in the practice of war. But we must indeed always remember that the record of the genuine citizen soldier has now and again added a glorious page to the history of war. The splendid achievements of the Grecian warrior in the palmy days of Grecian history were not accomplished by professional soldiers trained in camps and bred to war exclusively, but by men who were earning their livelihood by the ordinary avocations of life and pursuits of ordinary business like our own Volunteers.

For instance the Athenians who fought at Marathon and Salamis, the Spartans who died with such soldierly calmness in the Straits of Thermopylæ were the tradesmen, the humble artisans, handworkers and men of

business, the poets, the orators and the artists of their native towns; for so stern were the conditions of life in those lively but tiny republics of Greece, that every man whose age and strength allowed him to carry arms, was as certain to find his name in the roll call of the phalanx of his native city as you or I in the books of the tax-gatherer, and they had to serve; there was no exemption and the results show much may be accomplished by perfect military training and capable leadership and the records of the time prove that those who followed the lighter pursuits of art and literature and whose works charm and instruct us at the present day and will perhaps charm us for ages to come were not a whit behind their fellows of coarser mould in soldierly qualities when the contest closed at weapon's point on the field of battle.

Socrates for instance was not only a sculptor and philosopher but a stout soldier who fought in several campaigns in the phalanx of his native town and in modern days would have won the V.C. by carrying off his pupil Alcibiades in the face of the enemy when wounded at the siege of Amphipolis.

Æschylus not only wrote magnificent dramas but was in his place in the ranks of the phalanx in the famous charge at Marathon. He was also on board the ships at Salamis, an actor in the scenes he describes in such stirring language in his famous drama of the "Persæ"—and so on with many notabilities in art and literature to whom there is not space to refer. They achieved success that shaped the history of the world for ages, perhaps for ever. But they were as I have said hardened by the exercises of the Palæstra, trained to supreme efficiency in the duties of the soldier and marshalled by leaders of exceptional ability.

Our own Volunteers also may claim a glorious record on the only occasion in which they met an enemy on the field. In speaking of the citizen soldiers we should never forget the performances of the famous London trained bands, the lineal ancestors of the Honourable Artillery Company of London. Clarendon in his history denounces them as malignants and pestilent fellows but nevertheless he knew a man when he saw him and bears witness enthusiastically to their soldierly bearing. Here he says were men who were only rowdy London apprentices and had seen no more of war than a parade in Moorfields, yet behaved with the steadiness of veteran soldiers when facing the Royal army on the field of Newbury, closing their ranks and forcing their way with levelled lances through the opposing lines which barred their return to London, Rupert and his cannonading and his furious cavalry charges to the contrary notwithstanding.

I am tempted to trouble you with another letter to remind the world of actions which should never be forgotten but whose lustre from lapse of time is somewhat dimmed but which are strictly pertinent to the subject of the Volunteer soldier and his capabilities.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. B. GARLING.

CONSCRIPTION.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Whin Hurst, Hayling Island,

22 September, 1905.

SIR,—Your article in the SATURDAY REVIEW of the 16th supporting the idea of conscription for home defence was read by me with delight. The term "conscription" may be odious to many Britishers, but in reality it only means some compulsory form of useful training when all is said. The National Service League in its many and interesting pamphlets is trying to educate the public taste in this direction.

Yours, &c.

H. G. SANDEMAN,

Commander, R.N.

ORGANS AND ORGAN PLAYERS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Oxford and Cambridge Musical Club,
Reynolds House, 47 Leicester Square,

25 September, 1905.

SIR,—In discussing the musical status of an organist it is important to distinguish between the musician who plays the organ and an organist who attempts to be a musician. Now a man whose sole medium of musical expression is an organ is bound down to an instrument which, although capable of giving a large variety of sounds, bounded only by the number of stops it possesses, yet gives always the same identical sound for each combination. If one spent a week in trying all the various combinations of a good organ, one might get a fair variety of colour, but how many organists make use of all the possible combinations? Each man has his own favourite combinations and uses them year in and year out. His means of expression becomes limited to an almost infinitely small variety of tone, whereas the whole secret of the charm of music and the power of a musician is the subtlety of the means by which he appeals to the emotions of his hearers, and more important still the means by which he expresses and moulds his own musical feelings. Such a man who tries to criticise music or to compose starts out with a mind wholly incompetent to appreciate the subtleties of music. How often one recognises the compositions of an organist, not by their merits, but by their limitations, the long pedal notes, for example, reminiscent of the Sunday exodus from church.

The organist may be the backbone of the music of this country, but it is the backbone of a whale, and we want a mermaid.

Yours truly,

ARNOLD F. JONES.

RABBIT TRAPS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Narford, Swaffham, Norfolk.

SIR,—I am glad to be able to inform you that through an invention of my own the steel trap in common use for catching rabbits can readily and cheaply be rendered painless, by securing a few turns of copper or brass wire closely twisted round each jaw, below the teeth and just where the spring flies up, so as to ensure the teeth being a full quarter of an inch open when the trap is sprung. Rabbits are thus caught with equal certainty, and when taken from the traps are uninjured. The use of these modified traps is attended with many advantages as to food; also dogs, cats, or birds derive proportionate immunity from suffering when trapped by mistake.

I am, Sir, faithfully yours,

M. FOUNTAINE.

THE WHISTLER IN THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

14 Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.
3 October, 1905.

SIR,—Some of your readers will be astonished to learn that the authorities at the National Gallery have just taken my advice and spelled Whistler's name correctly.

Possibly, later, they may condescend to give the picture its correct title and remove the false statement "British School" from the label. A cursory inspection, however, of the labels on a number of other pictures has enabled me to make a series of "discoveries" of "attributions" made by the authorities which add little to the glory of British art, but must add greatly to the gaiety of other nations. Really there is a mine for "the scientific critic" in the National Gallery quite undreamed of!

Yours,

JOSEPH PENNELL.

REVIEWS.

ELIA AND HIS FRIENDS.

"The Life of Charles Lamb." By E. V. Lucas. 2 vols.
London: Methuen. 1905. 21s.

THERE is something almost incongruous in the idea of eight hundred odd pages devoted to a "Life of Charles Lamb". Not that the essayist's life was exactly uneventful. He met many interesting people and had some splendid friends about whom we have a justifiable curiosity. But so far as incident and adventure go Charles Lamb with his quietly heroic career offers no scope for the methods of the ordinary biographer. He did not live a variegated, dramatic life. He was not in touch with the larger world. Something of a recluse he found his adventures among his books. That is why we find him prizing so eagerly the friendship of a man such as Manning who could bring him news at first hand of the happenings beyond his library. The bare incidents of his life, his education at Christ's Hospital, his dreary work at the East India House, his love-affair with Fanny Kelly, were already well known before the publication of this "Life". The principal, the most poignant event which shaped his whole existence—the tragic taint in his sister and himself—is a matter too painful for much elaboration. Where then was the material for an elaborate Life of Charles Lamb to come from? Mr. E. V. Lucas has answered this natural query. It is well if we must have two lengthy volumes on Charles Lamb that Mr. Lucas should be the writer.

For he approaches his self-appointed task with rare delicacy and insight combined with unflagging enthusiasm. To him no detail in the life of Charles Lamb is unimportant. Nothing can escape his loving eyes. With the most painstaking care he seems to have exhausted every source from which information bearing directly or indirectly on the subject of his life could be gleaned. And yet for some of us at least who feel for Elia a real personal affection there is regret in the exposure of Charles Lamb the man to this glare of publicity. Surely he himself has told us all that we can reasonably desire to know of him and his associates in his own inimitable fashion. The mere facts of his life profit us nothing. It is Lamb as he has revealed himself to us in his writings, shrewd, humorous, independent, balanced between fun and seriousness who interests us. What matters it if, as Mr. Lucas warns his reader repeatedly, Lamb is not always to be trusted for strict accuracy when writing of himself, his friends and his experiences? Truth is of more kinds than one; and the truth which is of most importance to mankind is not the truth of a particular fact which once occurred but the truth of eternal facts, the same yesterday, to-day and for ever. Of this poetic truth Charles Lamb was a master, and it is this absolute fidelity to "the vision within" that constitutes his hold upon his readers. Who cares, for instance, whether the delightful "Captain Jackson" of whom Lamb tells in the "Last Essays of Elia" ever lived in the flesh, whether he was invented or portrayed? It is enough that Charles Lamb made him more alive than the living. In his prototype or prototypes—for Mr. Lucas will have it that he was drawn from actual existence—we have absolutely no interest.

Nor does it thrill or help us to know that in the opinion of Mr. Lucas the "Confessions of a Drunkard" had many true statements in it of Lamb's actual experience. We could have been content to forego these "actualities". The fact is that Charles Lamb's life cannot be separated for an instant without irreparable loss from his work. His personality permeates all he wrote. In his essays so far as we are concerned he "lives and moves and has his being". We are content to judge of his personality in its broad outlines by his work and it was given to few men to reveal themselves more completely and in a manner more winning and irresistible. We do not mean that Mr. Lucas shows any unconsciousness of this fact. On the contrary in his preface he makes it manifest that he has approached his task in the spirit in which Froude always maintained that history should be

written. "My part", he writes, "will be found to be less that of author than of stage-manager. I have tried as far as possible to keep the story of Lamb's life in his own and his sister's words and in those of their contemporaries". With this sentiment we are in complete accord and so far as the book is an autobiography pure and simple, a mosaic deftly put together from the essays and letters of Lamb and his sister Mary as well as the reminiscences of Hazlitt, Hood, the Cowden Clarkes, De Quincey, Talfourd, Barry Cornwall and others we have only praise for it. But where it seems to us Mr. Lucas has gone astray and where he has rendered his work unnecessarily discursive is in his attempts to make us interested in people who have and can have no other interest for us than that Lamb made them interesting. He has been the slave of an over-conscientious accuracy. His passion for truth, for literal and verbal truth, has led him into unprofitable byways, which, while they shed no new illumination on the personality of his author, frequently distract and sometimes almost irritate the reader. The absolute modesty of the biographer's methods, the quiet modest manner in which he interpolates some explanation or correction—the product of care and research—so far from modifying seem rather to intensify our resentment. Had Mr. Lucas been some hot partisan with a wrong-headed theory to justify at all costs we could have forgiven him sooner. But his comments are a model of coolness and scholarly precision. Who desires to read his Lamb with marginal notes and textual explanations? It is not only in children that, as Lamb himself said, "We crush the faculty of delight and wonder by explaining everything". Of far greater value would it have been if Mr. Lucas had considered it within the scope of his plan to give us more of himself and his own point of view. Instead of devoted scholarship expending itself over trivialities we should have preferred an analysis, a constructive appreciation from a man so well equipped at all points to give it.

The work of Mr. Lucas certainly enables the reader to obtain a completer picture of Charles Lamb than he can gain from any other source. Apart from its value as literature the book is a Lamb encyclopædia which with its carefully compiled and accurate index and appendices forms a complete mine of information of every kind about the author. Here too we have pictures of Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Wordsworth, Charles Lloyd, Priestley, Hazlitt, Southey, and last but not least, delightful, dirty Dyer. Lamb had a genius for friendship. His friends were not numerous but to them he gave of his best. He never undervalued them but was inclined to accord himself a very lowly place. We find him writing to Coleridge, "I love to write to you. I take a pride in it. It makes me think less meanly of myself. It makes me think myself not totally disconnected from the better part of mankind. . . . I am always longing to be with men more excellent than myself. All this must sound odd to you; but these are my predominant feelings and I should put force upon my mind were I to reject them. Yet I rejoice and feel my privilege with gratitude, when I have been reading some wise book such as I have just been reading, "Priestley on Philosophical Necessity" in the thought that I enjoy a kind of communion, a kind of friendship, even with the great and good". . .

The note of an almost pathetic humility that is sounded in this passage occurs frequently in Lamb's letters. There was in him a deep religiousness, a yearning after perfection to which he gave expression sometimes before his friends. "To you", he writes to Coleridge, "I owe much under God. In my brief acquaintance with you in London, your conversation won me to the better cause and rescued me from the polluting spirit of the world. I might have been a worthless character without you; as it is I do possess a certain improvable portion of devotional feelings, though when I view myself in the light of divine truth, and not according to the common measures of human judgment, I am altogether corrupt and sinful. This is no cant. I am very sincere". It is easy to imagine the shock which Lamb was later to experience when he found that his idol had feet of clay and that Samuel Taylor Coleridge was no more than a frail man amongst

men. The tendency to idealise with its inevitable disillusionment was responsible for a strain of wistfulness in some of Lamb's work. It found its best expression in the verses entitled "The Old Familiar Faces", which as Mr. Lucas says, "in their tragic tenderness and melancholy are unsurpassed in the language".

Of Lamb's place in literature and of his peculiar genius no one has written in manner more illuminating than Walter Pater in "Appreciations". Writing of him as one of the number of "disinterested servants of literature" he says: "In the making of prose he realises the principle of art for its own sake, as completely as Keats in the making of verse. And, working ever close to the concrete, to the details, great or small of actual things, books, persons and with no part of them blurred by the intervention of mere abstract theories, he has reached an enduring moral effect, also, in a sort of boundless sympathy. Unoccupied, as he might seem, with great matters, he is in immediate contact with what is real, especially in its caressing littleness, that littleness in which there is much of the whole woeful heart of things, and meets it more than half way with a perfect understanding of it. What sudden unexpected touches of pathos in him! bearing witness how the sorrow of humanity, the 'Weltschmerz', the constant aching of his wounds, is ever present with him; but what a gift also for the enjoyment of life in its subtleties, of enjoyment actually refined by the need of some thoughtful economies and making the most of things! Little arts of happiness he is ready to teach to others. . . ."

There in a few words is an estimate of Charles Lamb at once exact and satisfying.

THE POET OF VERDURE.

"Andrew Marvell." By Augustine Birrell. (English Men of Letters.) London: Macmillan. 1905. 2s. net.

THE ultimate function of a book, in Mr. Birrell's philosophy, is to be readable, and there is no writer of the present day whose theory and practice accord more pleasantly. His was just the pen for a book about Marvell—not that Marvell really affords material for anything like a book of two hundred and odd pages. Of Marvell personally only a few glimpses, and those in no sense intimate, survive. The poems, "full of a witty delicacy", are of a kind to invite much enjoyment but little comment. The satires in verse were of quite ephemeral merit. His pamphlets, though vigorous and good of their sort, had nothing very extraordinary in an age so prolific of acute argument, and the letters to his Hull constituents, though in point of dignity and restraint they might serve admirably for models to our own members of parliament, can hardly be described as literature. Small wonder if the biographer, thus meagrely provided in respect of the portrait itself, is driven to eke out his picture with a plentiful elaboration of background. For Marvell there was background and to spare, and Mr. Birrell has made the most of his opportunities. The book in consequence, while as a whole it bears every mark of a piece of taskwork, foredoomed to a certain thinness and scrappiness by the nature of the attempt, has much to interest or instruct after a casual manner of its own, even in passages—numerous enough—where Marvell himself is somewhat to seek. We may add that Marvell's self-repression, a trait Mr. Birrell often finds occasion to emphasise, has noticeably infected Mr. Birrell's own style. There are touches of the familiar sparkle, but not many. He writes irresponsibly as ever, it is true, but the irresponsibility here is a sort of mature irresponsibility—not so much the effervescence of a writer who takes pleasure in everything as the good-natured indifference of a ripe philosopher who feels that much can be said on every side of most questions and that anyhow the book has got to be written. That Mr. Birrell should make Marvell a peg for disquisition at large on the politics of the period neither surprises nor offends us, seeing that Marvell was after all a political character in his day and that Mr. Birrell also has political instincts which he cannot entirely suppress. Moreover we must do Mr. Birrell the justice

of noting that his comments on this period of English history—a period which rarely fails to elicit, even to-day, some flaw of temper in the writer who touches it—are marked by praiseworthy serenity. What however has disappointed us very seriously is the scant consideration that Mr. Birrell, with so many blank pages at command, has accorded to the main point—Marvell's serious poetry.

Mr. Birrell astonishes us by the assertion that Marvell "was never a finished master of his art"; that he could not write verses, for example, like Waller's lines "On a Girdle". We know of nothing in Waller (to speak of craftsmanship pure and simple) that can surpass such verses as those on "The Picture of little T.C. in a Prospect of Flowers".

"Meantime, whilst every verdant thing
Itself does at thy beauty charm,
Reform the errors of the spring;
Make that the tulips may have share
Of sweetness, seeing they are fair;
And roses of their thorns disarm;
But most procure
That violets may a longer age endure."

As to poetic virtue, comparison of Marvell with a poet like Waller strikes us as almost impossible. They are of two worlds. In Waller, to our ear at all events, the vernal note is at the point of extinction. Waller initiates the period of culture, when poetry ceases to be an impulse and becomes an accomplishment. In Marvell, slight and few as the finer productions of his genius are, the early breath still lingers. Mr. Birrell's remark that "one has frequently occasion to wonder how a man of business could allow himself to be tickled by such obvious straws as are too many of the conceits which give him pleasure" is not, in our opinion, very discriminating. Wit for its own sake, one must allow, is always tiresome to succeeding generations. Shakespeare's wit is often exceedingly tiresome. But there is all the difference between a wit that serves (as it served so often, for instance, in the eighteenth century) by way of substitute for poetic imagination, and a wit that is the by-product, so to speak, of poetic imagination—a wit that sprouts by natural excretion from a full fancy. Elizabethan wit, though it often irritates us, we regard with a certain indulgence, just as we regard the irritating pranks of healthy children. The pleasure the Elizabethans take in their conceits is simply the pleasure which Aristotle ascribes to all growing things, as being pleasantly aware of their own growth. And even in Milton's generation, when Englishmen had resumed the national habit of living for other objects than life itself, poems like Marvell's were put forth in proof that a bough or two was still undried on the tree of purely English poetry. Two lines only—

"The mind, that ocean where each kind
Does straight its own resemblance find"—

are enough to stamp the intellect of Marvell as part of the indigenous renaissance, the native muse. We perceive at once the tendency to "conceit" which in such a writer as Donne often overmasters the thought, turning what should be a garden into a luxuriant wilderness; the intensity of imagination and metaphysical insight that perished with Vaughan; and the English manner, still pure of Latin influence. Considering that the poem from which these lines are taken is itself a translation by the author of his own "Hortus", we find it very interesting to reflect how closely Marvell is in touch with two atmospheres. He produces "An Horatian Ode" which is the true equivalent of Horace just because it has nothing in common with Horace but the spirit. He has small antiphonal songs which are really like Theocritus just because no one could suspect them to be literal translations.

"Tom. 'Here she comes; but with a look
Far more catching than my hook;
'Twas those eyes, I now dare swear,
Led our lambs we know not where.

Hob. 'Not our lambs' own fleeces are
Curled so lovely as her hair,
Nor our sheep new-washed can be
Half so white or sweet as she.'"

Marvell, in fine, though his praise of "Paradise Lost" is obviously sincere, himself belongs to an age which thought and felt in English, however familiar it might be with the language of scholars. Of this age a few notes are to be heard in Milton, it is true, but only in the early poems, poems written in the country during the halcyon years which preceded those two decades of wasteful bigotry that cost us, probably, an English Vergil. With "Paradise Lost" we enter that other age of literature—an age that gains from Latin, no doubt, an imposing dignity and metallic clearness of outline, but only at irrevocable expense of human sympathy and joy. Marvell lived on into this age, and admired "the verse created, like the theme, sublime" of Miltonic epic, but himself never forsook the green fields of England. The little we know of his political opinions quite confirms the impression his poems leave upon us—the impression of a thoroughly human temperament, an intellect of that highest order which perceives how little of permanent value is to be got, after all, from pressing abstract principles in the teeth of nature and experience. "Upon considering all, I think the cause was too good to have been fought for. Even as his present Majesty's happy Restoration did itself, so all things else happen in their best and proper time, without any heed of our officiousness." These are not the words of a trimmer, or of a comfortable idler. When corruption at Court and slackness in regard of national honour called for words, Marvell carried his just invective to a point of amazing audacity. It was in a poem written to honour Cromwell that Marvell saw fit to include the memorable and glorious stanzas which invest the "tragic scaffold" with a grandeur supreme alike in history and in verse. The same Marvell devoted his most energetic prose to the cause of religious toleration at a period when only few, besides the King himself, were capable of a larger outlook than petty ecclesiasticism would permit. The work of Marvell had neither quantity nor significance to warrant a regular biography, but this is no disparagement either of his poetic merit or of his symbolic value. Poetically he belongs, in every sense worthily, to the imperishable group of writers who felt beauty at first hand, transmuted what they felt into a genuine possession of the mind, and uttered their mind in the clear spontaneous notes of an age at once profound and simple. Symbolically, he stands for that peculiar type of mind which emerges, in every period of English history, distinct from and superior to the crowd of passions and prejudices which are popularly supposed to constitute the life and motive force of important "movements". Minds of this type seldom appear in large print on the page of the historian, but it is these after all which contribute the real and permanent element of progress. Charles I. has no finer monument than the eight lines which Marvell built for him, but Marvell himself was denied a tombstone by the Royalist incumbent of his parish. As poet, he sang the praise of retirement, the refuge from passion which the mind may discover in green alleys and flowery spaces. To politics he carried the secret of that retirement—the philosophy of Nature, which teaches that every truly constructive process is a silent one.

DR. MOMERIE.

"Dr. Momerie, his Life and Work." By his Wife.
Edinburgh and London: Blackwood. 1905. 12s. 6d.
net.

THERE is a painful interest about a life which has been spent in rebellion against its circumstances. Dr. Momerie, a man of singularly quick though not profound intellect and one endowed with a dangerous facility of expression, was thoroughly unhappy in his origin. He was of Huguenot and Puritan descent, the son and grandson of Independent ministers, old fashioned men of comfortable means and of the narrowest and most timid evangelical orthodoxy. He was destined for the ministry of his denomination from the first and accepted it as his lot. But he was conscious of talent and eager to learn, while his parents regarded any training beyond that of Cheshunt College

superfluous and perilous. He wished to go to New College at Hampstead, but his mother feared the influence of "Binney, Stoughton and others"; neither she nor his father had any conception of the intellect as a dominant force in their son. They fancied that he merely craved for a cap and gown, ornaments eschewed at Cheshunt, and that if these boyish notions were crushed he might be moulded into the hereditary type. But he persisted and was allowed to enter the dangerous seminary. He certainly profited by it, and escaped its most obvious peril, for he reports that most of his fellow-students were engaged to be married and that, if he would, he might have had the same happiness. Probably in these days of liberal thought the young Independents have mental interests which distract their attention from premature courtship. But New College could not satisfy Momerie's desires. His heart was set on Edinburgh, though he was impressively warned from home of the peril to his "moral, spiritual and eternal interests". He was allowed, very grudgingly, to matriculate at twenty-four, and flung himself heartily into the life of the University. The professors, naturally enough, welcomed a keen and able student of an age at which social intercourse was easier than is the case with the schoolboys who crowd their class-rooms. For the first time in his life Momerie was admitted into an intelligent society; he met men of mark, Dean Stanley among them, and read and was influenced by the SATURDAY REVIEW. When he finished a brilliant career at Edinburgh in 1875 he had determined that he would not be an Independent minister and that he would go to Cambridge. But his parents, always suspicious and voluble in that religious phraseology which has a peculiar power to irritate, refused him help and reduced him for a while to serious discomfort. But he held bursaries from Edinburgh and soon gained a foundation scholarship at St. John's, and coming as he did with a trained mind to Cambridge and with nothing to distract him from his work, it is not surprising that at thirty-one he had gained a fellowship at his college after being at the head of the Moral Science Tripos.

We have dwelt at length on this part of his career because it seems to account for his subsequent failure. A life of strenuous effort accompanied by ceaseless querulous complaints that the son was "blighting the fond hopes" of his parents must have rendered him, in spite of strong natural affection, cold and defiant. He passed with success through two universities at an age when it was impossible for him to form the friendships and profit by the play of mind upon mind which are among the most powerful of educative influences. There is no trace in his life of familiar intercourse with his equals in age and ability. He could only look on from outside; and when he determined, at the cost of inflicting a "life-long bitterness" upon his father to take Orders, he was in spirit an alien to the Church. Not that he had any thought of disloyalty, but his antecedents and his training made sympathy impossible. Nor had his education, which had sharpened a naturally acute mind, provided him with an adequate store of facts or with a sense of proportion and probability. And so he quickly shipwrecked himself. He was ordained at thirty, in 1878, and after a short tenure of a Lancashire curacy and a successful appearance as a University Extension Lecturer, he was appointed Professor of Logic and Metaphysics at King's College in London in 1880 and almost at once Preacher at the Foundling Hospital. The writer has not collected evidence, as she might easily have done, of his success in the former capacity. He could not fail to be interesting while he was content to be sound in his teaching, and when he allowed himself to deal in paradox his vigour of style must have made him a dangerously fascinating lecturer. Unhappily his sense of responsibility was so slight that paradox formed a large part of his teaching, at any rate in the pulpit. He became a popular preacher, and succumbed to the temptation of being striking at any cost. Not that he was deliberately forsaking truth; he had no reasoned and experienced truth to abandon. At his best he was admirable; at his worst he lost all contact with reality and with charity. When, after previous trouble, he was expelled (to use his own word) from King's College and resigned his readership in anticipation

of the same fate he tells us that in some lectures he "endeavoured to show that the orthodoxy common to all the churches was a monstrous outgrowth of ecclesiasticism, a shapeless congeries of crude illogical, half-heathenish notions", and so forth, in the best style of the Binneys and Mialls of his youth. He is quite serious, quite unconscious that his rhetoric has no relation to truth or that he is disloyal to the Church of his Orders. It is as though a chemist were to proclaim that our air is a deadly poison because one of its elements, if isolated, is fatal to life. He ignores the whole practical results of Christianity, and his own duty as a Christian teacher. The moral sanctions, the solemn and tender feelings, the bonds of close association, the cumulative evidence of Christian experience are contemptuously passed by that stress may be laid upon a hasty rhetoric which he thought was an analysis. Irresponsibility could reach no further extreme. The wonder is that for ten years Dr. Momerie was so patiently endured. Of the few and sad last years of his disappointed life we need not speak, nor need we attempt an estimate of his talents. He had not, nor did he care to acquire, the knowledge which would have enabled him to employ to serious purpose his faculty of reasoning and of exposition. That he had attractive qualities and unusual gifts is obvious, but it is impossible to regard him as a guide of thought or a sufferer for truth.

THE MAMMOTH ART OF CHINA.

"Chinese Art." By S. W. Bushell. 2 vols. London: Wyman. 2s. 3d. net.

THE Board of Education has recently published the first of two volumes on Chinese Art which are being written by Dr. S. W. Bushell C.M.G. In these days when books on art are published in forms so costly that a work on Chinese porcelain in which the same author participated was sold at £100 a copy, it is well to find a book, dealing with art in all its branches and containing over 100 well-chosen illustrations, which is sold at 1s. 6d. a volume. Those who are acquainted with Dr. Bushell's previous work know in what simple language the results of his researches, now extending over thirty-five years, are brought before the public and what implicit confidence can be given to his deductions and statements; and the Board of Education and the general public alike may be congratulated that he has been willing to undertake the composition of the present invaluable handbook to the collections in the museum.

The extraordinary importance attached by Chinese to all that is ancient is shown more especially in the chapters in this book on sculpture and bronzes. By far the most interesting piece of sculpture in China exists in two groups of bas-reliefs in Shantung dating from the first century B.C. to the second century A.D. and representing early historical subjects. The introduction of Buddhism in the first century A.D. and the imitations of Indian art which followed in its train gave origin to the treatment of new subjects and to the construction of the magnificent temples in stone near Peking in which the ability of the artists is admirably seen both in the proportions of the buildings and also in the carvings which adorn their base and sides. But the spirit of purely Chinese art in stone is shown in work of a very different sort, such as the great monolith figures of animals and warriors which flank the approach to the tombs of the Ming dynasty and in the perfectly plain structures designed for the tombs of the present dynasty. These are composed of enormous blocks of stone brought with infinite labour from distant quarries over roads and bridges which are hardly capable of sustaining ordinary cart traffic and have always to be specially prepared to prevent the great weights causing their collapse.

The same admiration for the employment of huge blocks of stone is seen in the case of the bridges over the rivers along the coast of South Fukien, where the stone slabs used in their construction occasionally measure 60 feet in length and are estimated to weigh nearly 120 tons, and the bridges themselves have a length

of 1,000-2,000 yards. The difficulty of placing these stones in position has attached to many of these bridges fables regarding some divinity whose aid alone has sufficed to effect the long-delayed completion of the bridge.

It is round Peking especially that examples of the higher types of work in stone exist. The Marble Bridge in the city, Marco Polo's Bridge a few miles to the west of Peking, and the Marble Junk which stands alongside the quay in the grounds of the Summer Palace, are among some of the more finished works. But as a rule decoration is not employed, and the beauty of the work lies in its form, as in the Camel's Hump Bridge west of Peking, or in its simplicity of character as seen in the Altar at the Temple of Heaven. In almost all cases where the buildings are not of solid construction the weight of the blocks employed has placed a strain upon the supports which the architect's skill was not competent to provide against; and with the lapse of time the melancholy spectacle is seen of slabs fallen from their places and of noble and costly structures approaching ruin. In some cases the interdependence of the arches leads to the same result. One notable instance of this occurred during Colonel Gordon's campaign against the Taipings when to allow of the passage of his small steamers it was necessary to make a gap in a bridge of over twenty arches, and arch after arch collapsed immediately after the passage of his small flotilla. But the excellence of the work, where stone is used in solid walls or buildings, leads one to marvel that stone has not been used for the construction of palaces and houses, in place of the ordinary style of building which consists of a wooden framework, the pillars of which rest on stone pedestals and the intervals between them are filled in with stone or brickwork, or fretted panels of wood. The nature of the design perforce restricts the architect from introducing architectural variations from the fixed relative proportions of breadth and height to the diameter of the pillars. Hence the plan of palace, temple and cottage is in each case practically the same, and the difference consists in the number of interspaces between the pillars which are covered by one roof.

The towers built in N.W. China in ancient times on lines resembling those of the buildings in Central Asia, the Lama Temple at Jehol built by the Emperor-Kang Hsi on the model of that at Potala in Tibet, and the palace in Italian style erected in the grounds of the Summer Palace under the superintendence of French priests in the middle of the eighteenth century, all testify to the recognition by Chinese of the merits of other styles of architecture than their own; and yet with all its defects the same type of building has prevailed for thousands of years over thousands of square miles, in spite of a passion for building as universal as the spirit of neglect which allows the most sacred and honoured buildings to remain untended and unswept. This feeling of veneration and the spirit of neglect are illustrated in the history of the Stone Drums, dating probably from B.C. 1118-1079, which Dr. Bushell speaks of as the most cherished relics of the Chou Dynasty. Discovered in the seventh century A.D. after being lost for centuries, they were placed in the Confucian Temple of the capital of the day; a special hall was built for their reception in a new capital in 1119 A.D., and on its sack in 1126 A.D. they were carried to Peking where they were placed in the Confucian Temple. But one of the drums has been injured in early times through use as a mortar for pounding rice, and in the present day the drums are not protected in any way from defilement or rough usage by the ignorant. The representation in the Shantung bas-relief of an unsuccessful attempt to raise from a river-bed in B.C. 194 one of the celebrated brass tripods which had been lost at the close of the Chou Dynasty, and were regarded as the palladia of the Empire, is another instance.

In modern times a more successful effort was made to save from the Taipings a celebrated bronze tripod, within which is an inscription dating from circa B.C. 800, still almost perfect. The priests on Silver Island, near Chinkiang, in whose temple the tripod was placed, then paid a large sum to procure the immunity of their island, and thus saved their treasure and with it their temples.

NOVELS.

"Twisted Eglantine." By H. B. Marriott Watson. London: Methuen. 1905. 6s.

Mr. Watson in his new novel essays to describe a type with which the modern world is peculiarly out of sympathy, the Beau of the Regency period. The Beau, of course, has descendants who have sunk in outward matters far below his own level, while they have not developed morally, but were he to reappear among them he would, one feels, have an absurd air. We have, in fact, lost the arts of strutting and of sauntering. Mr. Watson wants, as he says in his dedication, to treat the Beau as a man, but careful as his portrait is, we doubt his success. His Sir Piers Blakiston, though a friend of the youth of George IV., has none of the vulgarity of the Brighton Pavilion set; he is already a survival. Frankly, we do not think that Mr. Watson understands him. At any rate, he cannot explain his actions. Blakiston, finding the daughter of a rough Sussex squire to possess beauty and charm, tries to have her introduced to the London world. One gathers that his motive is as sinister as any vulgar blackguard could have conceived; he seems to think that she will please the Prince. But she makes on himself a deeper impression than he counted on, and so we have our Beau transformed into a Lovelace, abducting an innocent maiden, chasing her by sea and land, willing at last to take her on honourable terms, and finding that, oddly enough, a wife of spirit and virtue is not to be won by the methods of the seducer. In the end Sir Piers develops a magnanimity which is, we fear, not quite in the picture. The story drags in its early periods unlike most of its author's works, but the threads are firmly handled as the tale proceeds.

"Because of Jock." By E. L. Haverfield. London: Allen. 1905. 6s.

Miss Haverfield again sets us amid East-Anglian surroundings though not limiting her scenes to that district. In a measure she may be said to afford us something of a study in character contrasts. Her hero is one of those strong individuals not uncommon in the works of lady novelists, but too rare in everyday life. A captain in the army, he gets six months' leave from India that he may return to England to visit the family of a deceased young officer—an only son whom his family had looked upon as a paragon but of whom disillusionising stories might be told. Captain Thornton wishes to ensure that the Pearces whom he does not know shall not hear, or hearing shall not believe, those stories. On making their acquaintance he finds the only daughter—who is really a shallow, selfish little mortal—a self-sacrificing heroine, for the eye sees that which it brings with it the power of seeing. The gradual development, or rather the gradual revealing, of Fan Pearce's character is subtly managed, and at length, when Thornton has apparently sacrificed his career to her whims, he begins, thanks to her hysterical self-centredness, to realise something of the hopelessness of the compact into which he has entered. Some readers may think that Miss Haverfield in limning Fan has been as hard on her own sex as in portraying Cecil Thornton she has been flattering to the sterner one, others however will have to acknowledge that they are not unacquainted with individuals not altogether unlike the posing Miss Pearce. We are getting well on into the story before we realise the reason for its title, and then again we find Thornton acting the good Samaritan in a thoroughly unconventional manner but with far-reaching results. "Because of Jock" is a careful piece of work of the sort which it is always pleasant to read at a time when too many storytellers forget that easy writing often results in reading of an opposite character.

"Knock at a Venture." By Eden Phillpotts. London: Methuen. 1905. 6s.

Mr. Phillpotts seems to be straining the small-beer of Dartmoor somewhat thin. The ten short stories in his new volume really do not pass the level of the fiction to be found in the more popular magazines. One of them

is founded on an episode which we believe we have met in print before—the counterfeiting by smugglers of a ghostly funeral procession over a haunted hill under the nose of an exciseman. The others for the most part tell the tale of rustic courtships, jealousies, and the like, with no marked freshness, though the quaint turns of Devon speech are something of an embellishment. "Mound by the Way", the longest story in the book, culminates in a tragedy which seems capricious, but the actors have vitality. Mr. Phillpotts has fallen into a trick of talking like a showman: pointing out, in unnecessarily stilted language, a wall or a mound or a bed of nettles, he proceeds to recount what happened there fifty years ago. The trick becomes irritating with repetition. We are not enamoured of such flowers of style as "Devon's unnumbered breasts billow to the misty horizon". Devon is too clean a county to be likened to the goddess of Ephesus. But Mr. Phillpotts evidently intends to leave few of her natural features unnumbered; perhaps the phrase contains a challenge to his own industry.

"Fauconberg." By Sir William Magnay Bart. London: Ward, Lock. 1905. 6s.

Fauconberg is a most irritating novel. Sir William Magnay has powers considerably in advance of those of the average writer of fiction. He writes attractively and well. But he lacks imagination and any kind of magnetism or persuasiveness. One does not feel that he himself really believes in the incidents about which he writes. And unless an author is carried away by his characters and their doings what chance is there of the reader believing in or being interested in them? John Fauconberg of Gains, last scion of an ancient house, is the stock figure of fiction—the young man who has run through his fortune and sees no means of replenishing it. He is a not unattractive figure as painted by Sir William Magnay, and it is obviously and rightly intended that the reader's sympathies should be with him from first to last. But when the author insists on his hero doing the silliest and most ridiculous things which result in him being twice wrongly suspected of committing murder it is impossible for even the most willing reader not to be alienated. Sir William Magnay has modelled his novel on commonplace lines and has turned out a second-rate story.

"Alton of Somasco." By Harold Bindloss. London: Long. 1905. 6s.

In his latest romance of colonial life Mr. Bindloss takes us among the rivers and forests, the ranches and mines of British Columbia, and in doing so manages to impart a goodly share of that which we have come to call "local colour" to his pages. His "plot" follows on more or less conventional lines, for the unexpected will restoring the dispossessed, the clashing of strong self-reliant honesty with chicanery and double-dealing, these themes—or variants of them—have had to play their parts in fiction ever since the novel took its place among ephemeral literature. The hero, Alton of Somasco, becomes, thanks to his grandfather's will, Alton of Carnaby in that England which he had never seen, and doing so ousts a fair relative who goes to British Columbia with her unhappy father that they may "arrange" matters. Matters are it is true finally "arranged", but scarcely in the way that Alice Deringham's father imagined though it is a way which nine out of every ten regular novel-readers will guess from the very outset. There is plenty of action and incident in the story, exploring adventures, claim-jumping, attempted murder and such-like episodes keeping matters briskly moving right up to the anticipated close.

NEW BOOKS AND REPRINTS.

"Les Sonnets Portugais d'Elizabeth Barrett Browning." Traduits en Sonnets Français par Fernand Henry. Paris: L. Guilmoto. 1905.

In the preface to his translation of the "Sonnets from the Portuguese" M. Fernand Henry complains, very good-humouredly, that another translator, M. Morel, whose version

was published in 1903, has attempted the impossibility of a line for line version; and he adds: "Tels ne sont pas, je dois le dire, mes principes. Certes je ne proférerai par ce blaspème que le traducteur ne doive viser à étreindre de toutes ses forces la pensée totale de l'original, à serrer le texte d'aussi près que possible, à garder le plus et du mieux qu'il peut les expressions, les tournures, les images, à rendre, en un mot, toute sa beauté, mais j'estime que rien n'est plus dangereux pour lui, et pour son modèle, que de chercher à réaliser ce but en se faisant l'esclave du mot à mot". M. Henry's version is not indeed a word-for-word one, but no more was that of M. Morel. When M. Morel translated "Thou Dovelike Help!" by "Couvre-moi de tes ailes!" he was scarcely translating word for word; less nearly indeed than M. Henry with his "Comme fait la colombe". The worst of it is that neither, at so difficult and significant a moment, renders poetry by poetry. M. Henry allows himself a little more license as a rule than M. Morel, and his sonnets read more smoothly. Often they are no more than capable, a conventional version of an unconventional original; but at times there is, in the verse, a genuine suggestion of poetry, as in the rendering of:

"Will that light come again
As now these tears come—falling hot and real?"

by these somewhat Verlainian but quite faithful lines:

"Paraîtra-t-elle encor cette vision chère :
Réelle cette fois comme mes pleurs ce soir?"

M. Henry's version is not inspired, but it is a fair interpretation; and his introduction of sixty-four closely printed pages and his ninety more pages of commentary and notes might instruct most English readers and will certainly tell readers in France all that they need know about Mrs. Browning and her poetry. The minuteness of the whole undertaking is rather German than French, and may seem almost too elaborate for the occasion. Does poetry, however personal, require all this elucidation? It scarcely seems to be intended for readers who come to poetry for poetry. But it has its value as a kind of literary scholarship; and M. Henry has certainly done his work with entire competence.

"Siberia." By Samuel Turner. London: Unwin. 1905. 21s. net.

Mr. Samuel Turner's record of travel, climbing and exploration from S. Petersburg to the Altai—where he reached the summit of the highest discovered mountain in Siberia—and back to Moscow will convey an idea not only of the geographical character of the country, but also of resources which await commercial and industrial exploitation. He emphasises the opportunities the country presents for dairy industries. Its mountains, he says, possess better grazing qualities than those of Switzerland, while the virgin soil and succulent grass of the steppes are, in his opinion, "richer than those of any Canadian prairie and more valuable than the gold mines of Klondyke or South Africa". Baron Heyking, Russian Consul for Scotland and the Northern Counties of England, in an introduction, commends Mr. Turner's efforts to interest the British people in their trade relations with Russia. It is Mr. Turner's view that the maintenance of British commercial supremacy depends more upon a friendly understanding with Russia than upon a military alliance with Japan. He makes an eloquent plea for a policy which seeks "to preserve to ourselves the goodwill of a generous and friendly nation", and he particularly deprecates the "grotesque and sensational" libels concerning Russia which appear in a section of the British press. The book is elaborately illustrated.

"In and Around Venice." By Horatio F. Brown. London: Rivingtons. 1905. 6s.

Mr. Horatio Brown, who prefaces his new volume with a candid admission that much has been and is being written daily about Venice, is one of those rare souls whose commentaries never come amiss, being indeed the output of a mind which not only feels, but understands and knows—that is, so far as anyone may know beauty which changes infinitely, and is never twice alike, but as elusive as a woman's smile. Venice, that "city of the soul", as he justly calls it, is familiar to him in every mood and aspect—in the clear light of morning when the red and orange sails of fishing-boats fleck the wide lagoon, at night when the moon hangs high above San Giorgio, and the corner of S. Mark's is touched with frosted silver, or again when the storm wind leaps out across the city, and all the wide bosom of the waters is ruffled with torn foam. He can repeat to us the rude chants of the pile-drivers, grotesque and musical, with here and there a reference to the Turks, once so formidable on these coasts. He knows their songs and proverbs, their beliefs and superstitions, and can illustrate them from the history of the great days whence they sprang. He has heard what the tourist can never hear, he has seen what the tourist can hardly ever see. His book is one which those who love Italy will welcome with both hands, and if in this work Mr. Brown penetrates less deeply into Venetian life than in "Life on the Lagoons" he has yet

captured and recorded aspects of it which do but too rapidly pass away, and may ere long exist only in memory, as with the great Campanile, whose cruel and unnecessary fate Mr. Brown describes in detail. For in this book, as in all others which depict Italy truthfully, one hears the stir and clash of a new world. The united nation turns its high genius to science and the practical affairs of life. A playground the peninsula may be still, but its people are awaking; and those who read Mr. Brown's description of the life of a Venetian country gentleman will see that the old indolence is passing rapidly.

THE OCTOBER REVIEWS.

It is natural that the October Reviews should be mainly concerned with speculations as to the effect of peace and of the new Anglo-Japanese treaty on the future of Asia. In the "Fortnightly" there are no fewer than four articles dealing with the various problems opened up by the international compacts of last month. "Specto" is doubtful whether Russian capacity for illusion has yet been satiated; and he is of opinion that but for the Anglo-Japanese treaty the peace of the Far East would be of short duration. He does not in any case believe that Russia will be content to submit for any considerable period to a passive rôle. The Tsardom will attempt to reassert its prestige in a diplomatic if not a warlike way, and will do so along the line of least resistance, which happens to be the Near East. "This does not mean a conflict with Germany, but it means a grave check upon the influence and designs of that country in Near Eastern affairs. The first concrete result might be an autonomous Macedonia. The wider development would involve a direct competition between Teutonic and Slav purposes in Asia Minor. If Russia possess a statesman of sufficient decision and dexterity for that task the catastrophe in Manchuria will have enabled her at last to find herself. There is no longer any valid reason why British and Russian statesmanship, in concert with French, should not reach a sincere and cordial understanding upon the basis of a new policy in the Near East, linked with a programme of political compromise and commercial co-operation in Persia." An article which should be read in conjunction with "Specto's" is Sir H. H. Johnston's in the "Independent" on the reorganisation of Russia, by which he really means the readjustment of the Russian frontier, so that Russia may find her outlet to the sea. Mr. Alfred Stead in the "Fortnightly" looks at matters mainly from the point of view of Russia and Japan. He regards Japanese concessions at Portsmouth as "triumphant", suggests that the Order of the Garter should be conferred on the Emperor, and proposes an agreement with Great Britain, France and Russia which would force Germany to keep the peace. That, he says, would be "the crowning glory of Lord Lansdowne, who would then, perhaps, receive some of the praise which is his due as the finest Foreign Minister Great Britain has had for many a long year. The compliments thrown to President Roosevelt as Prince of Peace-Makers, and even the few faded bouquets passed on to the German Emperor, do not hide the fact that the merit of the peace lies with Lord Lansdowne, and with nobody else. The originator of the idea, he enabled it to be carried out, and to him belongs the credit. President Roosevelt, once he was induced to summon the Conference, had to work hard for success in order to save his reputation. The German Emperor, as has been shown, so far from endeavouring to make peace, tried to and almost succeeded in breaking off the peace negotiations. The credit of the idea belongs to Lord Lansdowne, and the successful termination of the Conference belongs entirely to the Japanese Emperor and his advisers." Mr. Herbert Paul in the "Nineteenth Century" also gives sole credit for peace to the Japanese, and considers that Lord Lansdowne's diplomacy contributed to prevent the renewal of the war. "When so much is put down to the President of the United States, Englishmen may be pardoned for reflecting that nations are more apt to consult their allies than mere strangers." Lord Lansdowne has scored, Mr. Paul suggests, because he did not share the forebodings as to yellow perils concerning which Mr. Pearson would have had much to say if he had been alive. Visions of yellow perils, to Sir Edmund Barrow who writes in the "National", "are but nightmares". So long as the Anglo-Japanese alliance remains, Sir Edmund has no grave fears regarding the balance of power in the Far East, but he would like to see the alliance broadened by the inclusion of America and France. His views as to the future are:—"That the interests of foreign countries outside the Alliance may be seriously compromised by the new situation; that, thanks chiefly to China, the sources of international friction have been augmented rather than diminished; that the regeneration of China from within is an impracticable aspiration, and foreign pressure may easily produce an acute crisis; that though the commercial exploitation of China is a problem for immediate solution by our mercantile classes, we shall in the future be confronted by the real 'yellow peril' in the shape of the formidable commercial

and industrial competition of a fully developed China; that Japan may, by the force of circumstances, become a dangerous rival or even an adversary instead of an ally; that federation with our Australasian Colonies may be quickened, by this very danger; and that no reliance should be placed on the direct support of Japan for the protection of India." Great Britain Sir Edmund urges must not slacken her military and naval preparations because she has entered into an alliance with the new Power in the Far East.

Dr. E. J. Dillon, who appears always to be favourably placed for getting "inside" views concerning Russian affairs, tells "The Story of the Peace Negotiations" in twenty-two pages of the "Contemporary". Among the pressmen who enjoyed the confidence of M. Witte, Dr. Dillon was certainly easily first, and it is only to be expected that he should support Russian diplomacy against Japanese. He leaves the impression that M. Witte carried the day because he secured public opinion through clever press management, whilst the Japanese kept the press at arm's length until the eleventh hour, when it was too late. However much we may find to say in support of Russia's views as to the conditions of peace, it is impossible to say one word in approval of M. Witte's relations with the press. "Blackwood" is very severe on him for his "cunning diplomacy" and his "exultant appraisal of his own action". "His antics", says "Blackwood", "would better befit a vestry meeting than an international conference. His single triumph was won in the management of the press".

There is a consensus of opinion that the new treaty between Great Britain and Japan not only assisted peace but has disposed for a good long time to come of the Russian bogey on the Indian frontier. Sir Thomas Holdich in the "Fortnightly" is convinced that British strength in India is greater than it has generally been supposed to be, and that we might be much stronger still if we would take a lesson in the living principles of patriotism from Japan. Why wait for an imperial crisis to prove that our reserves of loyalty and patriotism are ample as ever? "A child is always a little patriot at heart." Do our methods of education whether in England or in India tend to promote and confirm those patriotic virtues which we find in other countries? An article in the "Monthly" by Mr. John Solano on India and Imperial Control certainly does not go to prove that Great Britain is using her opportunities in India to the best advantage. Mr. Solano is particularly severe on Mr. Brodrick. "The proof of incapacity helps rather than

(Continued on page 476.)

ALLIANCE

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An Extract from the Consolidated Revenue Account of

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Total paid policy-holders since 1843 by the Mutual Life ...	£	137,159,027	11	s.	d.	10
Held for future payments ...	£	89,936,996	12	s.	d.	9
Total benefit to policy-holders ...	£	227,096,024	4	s.	d.	7
The policy-holders have paid ...	£	209,077,807	5	s.	d.	2
Paid to, or accumulated for, policy-holders over and above the money received from them	£	18,018,216	19	s.	d.	5

It will be seen by the above figures that the MUTUAL LIFE has returned to policy-holders, or holds in trust for them, every penny which it has received in premiums and, in addition, £18,018,216 accumulated for their exclusive benefit.

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Founded 1848.

TEN YEARS' PROGRESS.

Annual Income	1894	-	-	-	£1,012,786
	1904	-	-	-	£1,348,659
Assets	1894	-	-	-	£5,536,659
	1904	-	-	-	£9,014,532
Payments under Policies	1894	-	-	-	£12,173,703
	1904	-	-	-	£20,474,666

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LOW PREMIUMS—LARGE BONUSES—ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

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Accumulated Funds amount to £13,000,000.

Over 80 per cent. of the Members who died during last Septennium were entitled to Bonuses which, notwithstanding that the Premiums do not as a rule exceed the non-profit rates of other offices, were, on an average, equal to an addition of over 50 per cent. to the Original Assurances.

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BRITISH EQUITABLE

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CAPITAL	£500,000
ACCUMULATED FUNDS	£1,815,507
PAID IN CLAIMS	£3,126,375
LIFE	
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For the Quinquennium ended 31st December, 1903, the large Reversionary Bonus of 35s. per cent. per annum was again declared on Sums Assured under the Participating Tables of the Prospectus. Expenses moderate. Bonuses large.

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hinders a Cabinet career. . . . To have won the fool's cap in the War Office is especially valuable." It paved the way to promotion, he suggests, in the case both of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and of Mr. Brodrick. Not only has Mr. Brodrick, according to his critic, in throwing over Lord Curzon done grave harm by dislocating the administrative machine: he has damaged the very mainspring of government by the destruction of the Viceroy's prestige. "For the fact has been proclaimed to India that the power of the 'Burra Lât Sahib' is no certain thing." That such an article as this can be written and printed in a periodical of the standing of the "Monthly Review" is sufficient proof of the unwisdom of publishing the official papers relating to the dispute between Lord Curzon and Lord Kitchener.

"Caesar and the Sentimentalists" by "Ignotus" and "Franc-Parler" by M. Paul Déroulède are the "National Review's" usual anti-German features, written for the benefit of "our minimisers, our sentimentalists and our puzzle-headed humanitarians generally". Caesar's dream, we are told, can only be realised by violating the Monroe doctrine, shattering the British Empire, or pulling Austria to pieces and bringing down the existing State structure of Europe. Whatever Germany's ambition may be, the efforts she has made to create a navy second only to that of Great Britain are undoubted. Two long articles in the "Monthly" by Mr. L. Cope Cornford and "V." show in considerable detail what Germany's naval strength really is. To the Scandinavian and the Hungarian crises are allotted two articles each. In the "National" Professor Edén of Upsala University states the case for Sweden and in the "Nineteenth Century" Sir Henry Seton Karr in an article obviously written some time ago describes the causes of the rupture, with the object of showing that Norwegian action is the outcome of "ninety years of international friction". The Hungarian question is dealt with from the pro-Hungarian point of view in the "National" by M. Francis Kossuth and in the "Contemporary" by Dr. Emil Reich. M. Kossuth says that "the Parliamentary majority representing the public opinion of the Hungarian nation is the champion of written law, equity and common sense", and declares the Austro-Hungarian structure "presided-over by a venerable monarch" to be composed of "such heterogeneous and ill-compacted elements that a Hungarian storm rocks the whole edifice". He seems to think Austria is destined to be divided-up between Russia and Germany. Meantime "Hungary has once again become a powerful nation, and with its 20 millions of people is in every respect fit to play the part in reality which is played in fiction by the Austrian Empire". Dr. Reich takes much the same view. He says it is customary to speak of the Empire of Austria and the kingdom of Hungary, whereas "the sober fact is that Hungary is an Empire proper while Austria is a term of political geography", and he considers that "in the present crisis all the chances are on the side of Hungarians".

In the "Nineteenth Century" Miss Violet Markham writes on the home and the factory as the true foundations of the Empire. Mr. A. C. Benson advocates in the "National" the creation of an Academy of Letters as "a stronghold of art" and for the maintenance of a high standard of literary taste. In the "Monthly" Mr. Arthur Symonds has a picturesque paper on Pisa. In the "Fortnightly" Mr. B. W. Findon enters a plea for the Religious Drama. A useful article on the royal tour in India, by Mr. Arthur Sawtell, appears in the "Empire Review." The "United Service Magazine" this month is a Trafalgar centenary number and contains contributions from Lord Rosebery, Lord Selborne, Earl Nelson and others.

For this Week's Books see page 478.

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	Cost.	Cost per Ton.
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Development Redemption	875 0 0	0 2 0'000
Crushing and Sorting	586 6 10	0 6 10'597
Milling	1,018 2 0	0 2 3'925
Cyaniding Sands	1,043 19 3	0 2 4'634
Slimes	704 4 4	0 1 7'316
Sundry Head Office Expenses	270 2 8	0 0 7'429
Profit	10,382 14 6	1 3 8'783
	8,552 2 1	0 19 6'592
	£18,935 11 7	£2 3 3'375

	Value.	Value per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Gold Account—		
Mill Gold	10,033 16 5	1 2 11'213
Cyanide Gold	8,921 15 2	1 0 4'162
	£18,955 11 7	£2 3 3'375

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No Capital Expenditure was incurred during the month.

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THE CONSOLIDATED MINES SELECTION CO., Ltd.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Members of the Consolidated Mines Selection Company, Limited, will be held at Winchester House, in the City of London, on Tuesday, 17th October, 1905, at 12 o'clock noon, for the following purposes:—

1. To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following ordinary Resolution: "That the Capital of the Company be increased to £1,200,000, by the creation of 600,000 new Shares of £1 each."

2. To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following Extraordinary Resolution: "That the Articles of Association be altered in manner following: (a) In Articles 84 and 93 the word 'eleven' shall be struck out, and the word 'thirteen' substituted therefor. (b) The following Article shall be inserted after Article 84:—

"84a. During the period of five years from the 1st July, 1905, or so long as the firm of Messrs. A. Dunkelsbuhler & Co., or the members or nominees for the time being of such firm, is, or are, the registered holder or holders in the aggregate of 50,000 Shares of the Company, whichever period shall be the shorter, Messrs. A. Dunkelsbuhler & Co. shall have the right to nominate and appoint three Directors of the Company, one of whom is to be also appointed a Managing Director of the Company, and such Directors shall during such period continue in office during the pleasure of that firm, and the firm shall have power to remove such Directors or Director; but such Directors or Director shall not be otherwise removed, and shall continue in office during the said period, if they or he shall so long live, and the said firm, or such members or nominees, is or are the registered holder or holders of 50,000 Shares, or unless and until they or he shall be removed by them, or unless or until they or he shall resign their or his office, and on any vacancy in the office of a Director appointed by Messrs. A. Dunkelsbuhler & Co. that firm shall be entitled to nominate his successor, and so on, from time to time during the said period."

(c) Article 86 shall be struck out, and the following substituted therefor:— "86. The Directors, other than the Managing Directors or Director, shall be paid by way of remuneration for their services in each and every year in which a Dividend is paid exceeding 5 per cent. on the paid-up Capital of the Company for the time being such sum as may be equal to 10 per cent. of the amount distributed by way of Dividend in such year in excess of 5 per cent. The Chairman of the Board shall receive a fixed remuneration of £250 per annum in addition to any proportion of the percentage remuneration to which he may be entitled hereunder. All remuneration shall be deemed to accrue *de die in diem*, and the percentage remuneration shall be divided amongst the said Directors in such proportions and manner as they shall determine, and in default of such determination equally."

(d) Article 122 shall be struck out, and the following substituted therefor:— "122. The salary or remuneration of any Managing Director of the Company shall be such as the Directors may from time to time determine, and may either be a fixed sum of money, or may altogether, or in part, be governed by the business done or profits made, or may be upon such other terms as the Directors determine."

The Extraordinary Resolution will, if passed, be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution to a subsequent Meeting, of which due notice will be given. The Transfer Books will be closed from the 14th to 21st October, 1905, both days inclusive.—Dated this 5th day of October, 1905.—By order of the Board,
CHARLES W. MOORE, Secretary.Registered Office: 5 London Wall Buildings,
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BARNATO CONSOLIDATED MINES, LIMITED.

Ordinary General Meeting.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, will be held in the Board Room, The Consolidated Building, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Wednesday, the 22nd day of November, 1905, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of transacting the following business:—

1. To receive and consider the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account for the period ending the 30th day of June, 1905, together with the Reports of the Directors and Auditors.
2. To transact any other ordinary business of the Company.

By Order of the Board,

JOHANNESBURG CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENT CO., LIMITED,
Per R. V. MIDDLETON, Secretaries.

Johannesburg, 26th September, 1905.

Special General Meeting of Shareholders.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special General Meeting of Shareholders of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, will be held in the Board Room, The Consolidated Building, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Wednesday, the 22nd day of November, 1905, immediately after the termination of the Annual Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders convened for the same date and at the same place, for the purpose of transacting the following business:—

1. To consider, and if approved to confirm and adopt, with or without modifications, a certain Agreement bearing date the 27th day of June, 1905, entered into between the Board of Directors of this Company and the Board of Directors of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, as subsequently amended, which Agreement as so amended is now contained in a signed Indenture bearing date the 26th day of August, 1905, and provides, inter alia, for the purchase of the whole of the assets of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, as set forth in a schedule attached to the said Agreement, by the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, for the following considerations, namely:—

(a.) The payment and discharge by the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, of the whole of the liabilities and debts of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, as they shall exist on the date of the meeting, and the payment and discharge also, in the event of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, going into liquidation, of all the costs and expenses which the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, shall incur in connection with the liquidation of that Company, including all fees paid to Liquidators.

(b.) The delivery by the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, to the Directors or Liquidators, as the case may be, of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, of 1,200,000 shares fully paid up in the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, of the nominal value of £1 each, to be created by the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, in the manner hereinafter set forth.

(c.) The delivery by the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, of 152,500 shares in the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, which are at present held by the said Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited.

It is a term of the said Agreement that, in order to provide the 1,200,000 shares to be paid by the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, as part consideration for the purchase of the assets of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, as aforesaid, the said Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, shall increase the present capital of that Company from the sum of £2,750,000 to the sum of £4,345,000, by the creation of 1,595,000 new shares of the nominal value of £1 each, and that such new shares shall be apportioned as follows:—

(a) 1,200,000 of such shares, fully paid up, shall be delivered to the Directors or Liquidators as the case may be, of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, to be apportioned among the shareholders of that Company pro rata, so that each shareholder of the latter Company shall receive one share in the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, for each share which he shall hold in the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, at the date of the said meeting.

(b) The balance of the 395,000 new shares are to be held in reserve, and are to be issued by the Directors of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, to provide further working capital for that Company. The time when, the price at which, and the terms upon which the same shall be issued, shall be determined by the Directors of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, provided that, whenever such shares shall be issued, they shall first be offered to the shareholders of the Company registered as such on a date to be fixed by the Directors, in the proportion of one share for every ten shares which each shareholder shall hold, fractions not being calculated. Before offering such shares to the shareholders, the Directors of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, shall obtain a suitable Guarantor or Guarantors, who shall guarantee to take up the whole of the 395,000 shares, or any portion thereof which the shareholders shall not take up, at the same price at which the shares shall be offered to the said shareholders, subject, however, to a commission, as consideration for the said guarantee, to be arranged between the said Guarantor or Guarantors and the Directors. The further terms upon which the said issue shall be made are fully set forth in the said agreement.

It is a further term of the said agreement that, in the event of the agreement being confirmed and the said increase of the capital of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, being authorised by the Special General Meeting of the Shareholders of that Company called for that purpose, the said Meeting shall also authorise the Directors of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, to further increase the capital of that Company, at such time as they shall think fit, from the sum of £4,345,000 to the sum of £4,500,000, by the creation of further 155,000 shares of the Company, which shall be issued at such time and at such price and upon such conditions as the Directors of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, shall determine.

2. In the event of the said agreement being confirmed and adopted by the meeting, then to resolve to place the Company under liquidation, in terms of Section 199 of the Articles of Association of the Company, and to provide that

the permanent and ordinary Directors of the Company shall be the Liquidators thereof, to fix their remuneration, and to grant them the following powers, viz.:—

(a) All the full powers and authorities necessary for the liquidation of the Company, which are usually conferred upon the liquidators of similar Companies, with power especially to sign or cause to be signed all necessary powers, cessions and documents to pass transfer of all landed property, claims, mining rights and all other property, movable or immovable, including all bonds, policies and other rights and privileges whatsoever, belonging to the Company, to and in favour of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, in terms of the said agreement, and to do, make, execute and sign all things, documents, papers and instruments for the purpose aforesaid.

(b) To distribute the 1,200,000 shares to be paid by the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, as part consideration for the purchase of the assets of this Company as aforesaid, to and amongst the registered holders of this Company, in the proportion of one such share for every share in this Company held by such shareholders.

(c) To appoint such agent or agents under them in London, in the Transvaal and elsewhere in any British colony, foreign state or colony, with such powers as they may consider necessary in the interests of the Company, and for the due liquidation thereof.

(d) Such further powers and authorities as may be deemed necessary by the said meeting, in order to enable the said Liquidators to complete and carry out the liquidation of the Company.

3. To pass such further resolution or resolutions which may be thought necessary in order to carry out the foregoing purposes.

A copy of the Agreement between the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, and the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, will lie for the inspection of Shareholders at the Head Office of the Company in Johannesburg, and also at the London Office of the Company at 10 and 11 Austin Friars, E.C.

By order of the Board,

JOHANNESBURG CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENT CO., LTD.,
Per R. V. MIDDLETON, Secretaries.

Johannesburg, 26th September, 1905.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 15th day of November to the 22nd day of November, 1905, both days inclusive. Holders of share warrants to bearer wishing to be represented at the meeting, must deposit their share warrants:—

(a) At the Head Office of the Company in Johannesburg at least twenty-four hours before the time appointed for the holding of the Meeting.

(b) At the London Office of the Company, 10 and 11 Austin Friars, E.C., at least thirty days before the day appointed for the holding of the Meeting.

By order of the Board,

Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Co., Ltd.,
Per R. V. MIDDLETON, Secretaries.

Johannesburg, 26th September, 1905.

THE JOHANNESBURG CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENT COMPANY, LTD.

Notice of General Meeting of Shareholders.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders in the above-named Company will be held in the Board Room of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, The Consolidated Building, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Thursday, the 23rd day of November, 1905, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purposes following:—

1. To receive and consider the Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the period ending the 30th June, 1905, and the Report of the Directors and Auditors thereon.
2. To elect four Directors in place of those retiring in terms of the Company's Articles of Association.
3. To elect Auditors and to transact any other ordinary business of the Company.

By order of the Board,

THOS. HONEY,
London Secretary.

10 & 11 Austin Friars, London, E.C., 6th October, 1905.

Notice of Special General Meeting of Shareholders.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special General Meeting of Shareholders in the above Company will be held in the Board Room of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, The Consolidated Building, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Thursday, the 23rd day of November, 1905, immediately after the termination of the Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders convened at the same place and on the same day at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

The purposes for which this Special General Meeting of Shareholders is called are:—

1. To consider and if deemed advisable to confirm and adopt, with or without modifications, a certain Agreement entered into between the Directors of this Company and the Directors of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, on the 27th June, 1905, as subsequently amended, the whole Agreement as amended being contained in an Indenture signed by the Board of Directors of the said two Companies on the 26th day of August, 1905, by which Agreement it is provided, inter alia, that this Company shall purchase the whole of the assets belonging to the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, of every description, a list whereof is attached as a Schedule to the said Agreement, for the following consideration, namely:—

(a) The payment and discharge by this Company of the whole of the liabilities and debts of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, as they shall exist on the date when the said agreement shall be confirmed by the Shareholders of both the said Companies, at the Special General Meetings called for that purpose, and also the payment and discharge, in the event of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, being placed under liquidation after the confirmation and acceptance of the said agreement, of all the costs and expenses which the said Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, shall incur in connection with the liquidation of that Company.

(b) The delivery to the Directors or Liquidators of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, of One million two hundred thousand (1,200,000)

shares, fully paid up, of this Company, of the nominal value of one pound (£1) each, to be created as provided in paragraph 2 of this Notice.

(c) The delivery to the Directors or Liquidators of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, of the certificates for the One hundred and fifty-two thousand five hundred (152,500) shares in the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, now held by this Company, in order that the same may be cancelled.

2. In the event of the said agreement being confirmed and adopted, with or without modifications, by the meeting, then in order to provide the said One million two hundred thousand (1,200,000) shares to be paid to the Barnato Consolidated Mines as part consideration of the said purchase, to consider and if deemed advisable to resolve upon the increase of the capital of this Company from the sum of Two million seven hundred and fifty thousand pounds (£2,750,000) to the sum of Four million three hundred and forty-five thousand pounds (£4,345,000) by the creation of One million five hundred and ninety-five thousand (1,595,000) new shares of the Company of the nominal value of £1 each, which shares shall be apportioned as follows:—

(a) One million two hundred thousand (1,200,000) of such shares, fully paid up, shall be delivered to the Directors or the Liquidators, as the case may be, of the Barnato Consolidated Mines, Limited, as part of the consideration to be paid by this Company to the said Company in respect of the purchase of the assets aforesaid.

(b) The balance of three hundred and ninety-five thousand (395,000) of such new shares shall be held in reserve and shall be issued by the Directors of this Company at such time and at such price as they shall think fit, in order to provide further working capital for the Company, provided, however, that whenever such shares shall be issued they shall first be offered to the Shareholders of the Company registered on a date to be fixed by the Directors, in the proportion of one such new share for every ten (10) shares of the Company which each Shareholder shall hold, fractions however not being calculated; And provided further that, before offering the said shares to the Shareholders, the Directors shall, in order to ensure the full subscription of the said three hundred and ninety-five thousand (395,000) shares obtain a suitable Guarantor or Guarantors who shall enter into a contract with the Directors, undertaking to take up and pay for the whole of the three hundred and ninety-five thousand (395,000) shares or any portion thereof which the Shareholders of this Company shall not take up, at the same price at which the shares shall be offered to the said Shareholders, provided that it shall be competent for the Directors to agree to pay to the said Guarantor or Guarantors a commission in consideration of the guarantee. The further terms of the issue of such three hundred and ninety-five thousand (395,000) shares are fully set forth in the said agreement.

3. In the event of the said Agreement being confirmed and adopted and the increase of capital in the last paragraph set forth being approved, then to empower the Directors of the Company to cause the necessary Supplementary Articles of Association, amending the existing Articles of Association and providing for the increase of capital as aforesaid, to be prepared, signed and registered, and to do and sign or cause to be done and signed, all such matters, papers and documents as may be necessary or required in order to carry the terms of the said Agreement and the increase of capital into effect.

4. In the event of the aforesaid purposes being confirmed and approved by the meeting, then to authorise the Directors of the Company at such time or times as they shall think fit, to increase the capital of the Company from the sum of Four million three hundred and forty-five thousand pounds (£4,345,000) to the sum of Four million five hundred thousand pounds (£4,500,000) by the creation of further one hundred and fifty-five thousand (155,000) shares of the Company of the nominal value of one pound (£1) each, which shall be issued at such time or times, and at such price or prices, and upon such terms as the Directors of the Company for the time being shall determine, and to authorise the Directors if and when the said increase of capital shall be made by them, to cause the necessary Supplementary Articles of Association to be prepared, signed and registered according to law, and to do all other matters and things necessary to give effect thereto.

5. To do all other matters and things which may be required in order to give due and valid effect to all or any of the purposes hereinbefore mentioned.

By order of the Board,

THOS. HONEY,

London Secretary.

10 and 11 Austin Friars, London, E.C., 6th October, 1905.

NOTE.—Copies of the said Agreement will lie at the Head Office of the Company at Johannesburg and also at the Office of the Company at 10 and 11 Austin Friars, in the City of London, where they will be open for the inspection of Shareholders of the Company.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 16th day of November to the 23rd day of November, 1905, both days inclusive. Holders of share warrants to bearer wishing to be represented at the meeting must deposit their share warrants:—

(a) At the Head Office of the Company in Johannesburg, at least twenty-four hours before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting.

(b) At the London Office of the Company, 10 and 11 Austin Friars, London, E.C., at least thirty days before the day appointed for the holding of the meeting.

By Order of the Board,

THOS. HONEY, London Secretary.

London, 6th October, 1905.

THE MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY.

BALANCE SHEET UP TO 31st DECEMBER, 1904.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Capital	1,000,000	0	0						
Shares unissued (93,398 Shares)	93,398	0	0						
Issued Shares				906,602	0	0			
Reserve Fund				10,802	5	9			
Special Reserve Fund				3,540	17	5			
Creditors for Shares Deposited				15,521	0	0			
Dividends outstanding, 1897				634	14	6			
Expense Account—									
Participations (as per Contra)	151,026	0	0						
Certificates representing Share Interest in the Beira Railway Co., Ltd.	55,000	0	0						
Unrealised Profits				206,026	0	0			
Profit and Loss (Balance)				10,485	4	8			
				6,421	8	8			
				£1,162,433	10	6			
Cr.	£	s.	d.						
Shareholders' Account—									
Calls Payable				49,471	10	0			
Properties and Rights acquired				267,168	13	5			
Shares and Debentures—									
2,453 Shares Companhia de Moçambique	£2,453	0	0						
60,340 Shares Beira Railway Company, Ltd.	25,722	15	6						
£5,283 Debentures Beira Railway Company, Ltd.	4,213	12	5						
£10,000 English Consols, Crédit F. Portugais	11,196	19	7						
	43,586	7	6						
Participation in Sub-Concessionary Companies—	£	s.	d.						
2,000 Shares Panga and Silindi United, Ltd.	2,000	0	0						
3,500 Shares The Consolidated African Copper Trust, Ltd.	3,500	0	0						
7,500 Shares Braganza Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	7,500	0	0						
35,000 Shares Mozambique Mace-quece, Ltd.	17,500	0	0						
1,000 Shares Fura Mining Co., Ltd.	1,000	0	0						
12,368 Shares Companhia do Luabo	12,368	0	0						
2,000 Shares Companhia da Gorongosa	8,800	0	0						
7,300 Shares Companhia Portuguesa das Minas d'Ouro de Manica	7,300	0	0						
2,000 Shares Companhia Industrial Africana	8,000	0	0						
750 Shares The Durban Oil and Soap Co., Limited	750	0	0						
10,000 Shares Companhia Colonial do Buzi	10,000	0	0						
4,000 Shares Companhia Agri-colado Moribane	4,000	0	0						
15,551 Shares Companhia das Minas d'Ouro de Mace-quece	15,551	0	0						
36,577 Shares Revue (Manica-land) Gold Mining Com-pany, Limited	36,577	0	0						
180 Shares Chinese Explora-tion Co., Ltd.	180	0	0						
15,000 Shares Manica Copper Development Co., Ltd.	15,000	0	0						
2,000 Shares Manica Develop-ment Syndicate	2,000	0	0						
	151,026	0	0						
100,000 Shares Beira Railway Com-pany, Ltd. (deposited in Bank of Portugal)	55,000	0	0	206,026	0	0			
				249,612	7	6			
Cash at Bankers				6,446	14	0			
Cash in hand (Lisbon)				724	11	6			
Cash in hands of Committees—									
In Paris				415	8	1			
In London				1,949	3	5			
In Brussels				955	9	2			
Sundry Debtors and Creditors (Balance)							3,320	0	8
Shares Deposited—							17,370	10	1
As Qualification				13,000	0	0			
Against Loans				1,111	0	0			
By Cia. das Minas d'Ouro de Macequece, as Security for guaranteeing French Stamp Duty For Safe Custody				360	0	0			
				50	0	0			
							14,581	0	8
Debtors for Shares Deposited (at the Banque de l'Union Parisienne)—									
Value of 4,000 Shares of the Cia. das Minas d'Ouro de Macequece deposited as security for their debt to the Company							4,000	0	0
Furniture at Lisbon, Paris and London							1,017	2	4
Preliminary Expenses							47,545	7	1
Stock of Stationery							282	7	5
Bills Receivable							48,084	15	1
Administration in Africa (Balance)	£458,528	16	2						
Less Amounts in Transit	23,623	5	7						
				434,905	10	7			
Add Profits in Africa				10,013	0	10			
							450,918	11	5
				£1,162,433	10	6			

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS IN 1904.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Expenses in Europe				20,866	10	11
Expenses in Africa:—						
In the Territory				£125,046	15	7
Depreciation (subject approval of General Meeting)				4,522	14	6
				129,569	10	1
Profit Balance				6,421	8	8
				£156,857	9	8
Cr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Receipts in Europe—						
Premium paid on eighth issue of Shares in 1904	1,539	2	4			
Other Receipts as set forth in the Account of Receipts and Expenditure in Europe	9,735	16	5			
				11,274	18	9
Receipts in Africa—						
In the Territory				130,473	11	0
Compensation for the Premium on gold carried to Expenses Account in 1899 (see the Report for that year)				15,168	19	11
				145,581	10	11
				£156,857	9	8

Lisbon, 31st December, 1904.

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